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BAY AREA REPORTER

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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION AND READERSHIP IN THE BAY AREA

"GAY" – OUR WORD, THEIR WORD?

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Tamaras Calls For Aid to Victims of Crime

Supervisor Peter Tamaras has called for the enactment of an ordinance which will put San

Francisco on record as being committed to help the victims of crime. Tamaras outlined his proposal for a Victim/Witness Assistance Program at a meeting of the Governmental Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors on March 8.

The ordinance would provide for staff and volunteers to help victims obtain monetary compen-

sation for their injuries, to explain the court process to victims and witnesses unfamiliar with all of its aspects, to provide counseling, rehabilitation, and transportation to and from court. The project would make sure that victims know exactly where in the judicial process their case is at any given time. It will attempt to make sure that all persons who deal with the victims of rape and domestic violence are sensitive to their special needs for counseling. It will place special emphasis on the needs of the elderly.

Calling the proposal "a much needed reform to aid the victims of crime," Tamaras observed that "in our concern for protecting the rights of criminal defendants, we have often forgotten that their victims need help too."

"This proposal, which represents the culmination of a tremendous amount of work by my office, the Mayor's Criminal Justice Council, women's groups, senior citizens' groups, a myriad number of other concerned community organizations, and numerous criminal justice agencies, is designed to make the system less labyrinthine and more sensitive. It puts San Francisco

squarely on record as caring for the victims of crime," said Tamaras, who has worked for at least two years to establish a service for the victims of crime.

The proposal is slated to take effect July 1, 1977, when it will receive approximately \$98,000 from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

EDITOR'S NOTE: We urge concerned Gay groups who were not involved in the shaping of the proposed program to involve themselves in the final structure and the implementation of the ordinance. For information, contact Barbara Matthews of Supervisor Tamaras' office at 558-2943.

New Birth Certificate For Transsexuals

AB 385 wherein transsexuals could receive new and "corrected" birth certificates (new gender designations to reflect sex change operations), was easily approved by the State Assembly Health Committee in Sacramento. The vote was 7 to

2 in favor of the bill's first legislative hurdle.

The bill, sponsored by Assemblyman Willie Brown (D-S.F.), now goes to the Ways and Means Committee for hearings March 23. Brown's Sacramento office was pleased and encouraged by AB 385's smooth sailing thus far.

Assemblyman Art Agnos (D-S.F.), a member of the Health Committee who also voted for passage, was happy with the victory. He voiced concern from his S.F. office that the bill will be difficult to pass. He fears it will arouse hostility both unfair and irrelevant. "Some will respond to the bill," he said, "on feelings rather than on its merits."

"It is long overdue," he continued, "merely bringing the Health Department to conform with other state and national laws and agencies - i.e. Social Security, D.M.V." wherein a sex change is recognized and indicated.

Under AB 385, a transsexual would apply for the birth certificate change to the State Health Department. Local birth records would automatically be brought into conformity. The cost would be \$5 to switch. A new certificate would be put on file - indistinguishable from the original.

The only additional requirement would be a letter from a surgeon attesting that a sex change had been performed.

A delegation of transsexuals were present at the Committee's hearings but were not called to testify.

While the bill has the backing of the Brown administration and Bay Area legislators, transsexuals and their friends are urged to write their legislators asking their support (especially potentially hostile, sex-phobic lawmakers). Letters that personally detail embarrassing, humiliating, absurd experiences where in a birth certificate contradicts a person's present anatomy and physical appearance, would be most convincing.

Assemblyman Gordon Duffy (R-Hanford) objected to AB 385 saying, "I don't think the government can go on record condoning something that's not true." He had decided gender was determined by reproductive capability. "I have no problem if you want to set up a new category - N for neuter," Duffy concluded.

By his criteria, the number of N's might be overwhelming... perhaps more than the M - F's combined.

Yet Duffy's suggestion has its own mad logic... perhaps we need his "N" to suggest we need no categories whatever.

I've always been suspicious of letters between lovers, suspecting them of being no more or less than exercises in self-indulgence.

- Godfrey Smith

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HOUSE TALK

"GAY'S" Unhappy Plight

In this issue we open a three-part series on the word "GAY." Its use and alleged abuse have been causing some local consternation of late (another case of stolen goods it seems). The teapot tempest, we suspect, another wrinkle in the homophobic matrix. Jack Warner, a S.F. free-lance writer, lays the word out... hopefully laying the issue to rest. In the light of Charles McCabe's lament in last week's S.F. CHRONICLE wherein he complains he can't imagine how "GAY" fell in with the bad company it now keeps. For some queer reason McCabe

wishes forlornly that "GAY" had kept its virginity. With Jack Warner, we rest our case.

Rumblings From Valhalla

Starting with our March 31 issue, we will be featuring a new column entitled "THE TALES OF TESSITURA," centering around the world of opera. San Francisco is probably the most opera conscious city in America, and after scurrying around the nooks and crannies of the Civic Center, we came up with one of the more opera-crazed people in town.

George Heymont moved here five years ago from the East Coast. Although happily living in San Fran-

cisco, he can occasionally be seen heading for the airport, about to embark on an off-season jaunt to cities along the West Coast to hunt down prima donnas and other wild beasts. His column will feature reviews as a traveling opera correspondent; information about upcoming events in the West's opera world, with travel tips for those of you who might be in different cities along the coast when exciting performances will be taking place. There will also be interviews with people in all phases of the opera world: singers, backstage artists, some of the more amazing opera fans and local denizens of the opera scene in addition to fabulous tales of operatic lore and fun for the uninitiated.

P. Lorch

"Gay"

- Our Word, Their Word?

Why Call Them Gay?

BY JACK WARNER

PART I

The word "Gay," as it is used by homosexuals to describe themselves, their activities, and their lifestyles, seems to make many non-homosexuals uneasy. Non-homosexuals - or "straight" people, as Gay people call them - are inclined to believe that the word "gay" has always in the past meant happy, merry, lively, bright. Straight people say that they don't understand how such a "nice" word has acquired the special homosexual meaning which is now so commonly used by both homosexuals and the public media.

A well-known San Francisco columnist has asked on several occasions, "Why do they call them Gay when so many of them aren't?" And a commentator on National Public Radio has complained about what he thinks is a perversion of the meaning of "gay": "No self-respecting person feels safe using the word any longer," he says in a tone that lets his listeners know that he feels unfairly put-upon. These are but two expressions of recent confusion about what is assumed to be a new and unusual use of the word.

"Gay," as homosexuals use the term, has generally come into public use only since the late 1960's - that is, since the formation of an active Gay liberation movement. It was known and used by homosexuals, of course, long before that time, although they kept their special meaning pretty much to themselves. It was part of the secret life which homosexuals were obliged to live. This is not to say, however, that Gay people have been any more informed about the source of the term than many straight people are at present. For a good many years, the double meaning of the term has brought humor to Gay situations, but it has also brought unanswered questions about what the term really means.

In spite of the present confusion, the word "Gay," in its homosexual context, has a long and respectable history. It will surely come as a surprise to many straight people to learn that their own ancestors have played the major part in this history. What follows is the story of a personal search for the way in which the word has come to acquire its homosexual meaning.

A couple of years ago I was involved in an attempt to clear up some of the misinformation about homosexuals and homosexuality that is so prevalent in our society. Among other things, I gave informal talks to students and engaged in the exchange of ideas on the subject with them. Over a period of time, I discovered that the question most frequently asked by students was "Where does the word 'Gay' come from?" They wanted to know what the word really means in this context and why it is used by homosexuals. Since I had no direct answer for the students' questions, I could only repeat an explanation that had circulated among Gay people some thirty years ago when I had originally asked questions about the word myself.

This explanation stated that the word "Gay" was simply the initial letter "G," intended to stand for "Greek" (a word sometimes formerly used as a synonym for "homosexual") and pronounced with a continental vowel sound. As one of the students pointed out to me, the letter "G" is also pronounced this way in at least one of the major shorthand systems. The argument that went along with this explanation held that Gay people, during some period of extreme oppression and persecution in the past (and there were many such periods), needed an identifying word that would be known to themselves but would escape outside detection because of its common use in another context. In short, according to this explanation, the word was a secret sign, used much as members of a secret society or a fraternal organization might use a "password."

At one time, this explanation seemed plausible. After all, the word was used in precisely that way by generations of Gay people. But the more I thought about this explanation, the more I felt that it sounded too made-up. I had a strong suspicion that it had been invented to fit an already-existing situation. For one thing, it seemed too conspiratorial, and Gay people - in spite of certain charges made at various times in history about homosexual conspiracies - have never been, even in modern times, that cohesive as a group.

My failure to answer the often-repeated questions of the students (at least to my own satisfaction) started me on an investigation. Much to my surprise, the investigation turned out to be both short and easy. One visit to the library was sufficient, and I wondered why the other people who had expressed so much confusion over the term hadn't also made an attempt to track it down.

...to be continued

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Milk Forum

Leave Anita Alone?

by Harvey Milk

Every day someone, somewhere saying: "Oh, I know I shouldn't drink Florida orange juice - but, just this one can/container really won't make any difference." It will!

I know that attitude. It comes from the "let the other one do it" philosophy and/or from the "I'll stick my head in the sand and the danger will just disappear" philosophy.

Only the danger will not disappear. Only YOU are the other person to the other person!

Anita Bryant and her ilk are disturbed people. Letting her get away with her bigotry and hatred is not too far from letting the Nixons and the Hitlers get away with their sicknesses. And, it is only one step away from letting people like our Asst. D.A. Munson get away with his anti-Gay remarks. We have too many police chiefs like Ed Davis, too many Nixons, too many Munsons and too many Bryants in the world. Every one of them should be called down for their wrong-doings.

The Anita Bryants get their strength from the Davises and Munsons. As long as public officials are

allowed to make anti-Gay remarks, there is little to hold those who do not hold public office from following their lead. We can put political pressure on those who hold public office, but not on those who do not hold office. But we can put economic pressure on some of them. Not to do so is to give them a green light.

PINEAPPLE JUICE

The list of effective economic boycotts is long. Unions and governments use that method. There is no reason why EVERY Gay person cannot fight Anita Bryant in the privacy of their own home and bar. Just stop drinking Florida orange juice. You don't even have to tell anyone if you don't want to. If you are unsure of which juice comes from Florida, just switch to pineapple juice. It is that simple.

Of course, it might be inconvenient - but think of how inconvenient it is for every Gay person, especially those "coming out," to read the wild lies of the Anita Bryants. Think of how inconvenient it is for all those who might suffer some feel-

ings of guilt not knowing the truth - and you might even find that giving up your favorite drink might make you a little prouder - in helping rid the world of the disturbed Anita Bryants.

I deplore the statements made by the National Gay Task Force that we should not try to have Anita Bryant fired from her job. We don't need Uncle Toms to lead us to the gas chambers. There is a statement of weakness that can only encourage the Anita Bryants. There are enough out there who hate us already.

Look at your orange juice container - if you are not sure of where it comes from, there is one thing you can be sure of - if it does come from Florida, you are supporting a person who is preaching hatred towards every Gay person, especially the young. If you are unsure where your orange juice comes from dump it!

A NATIONWIDE BOYCOTT

I ask all Gay people, and all of our "friends," to avoid Florida orange juice.

I ask all those who boycotted Gallo to join us in this protest.

I ask the same Board of Supervisors that found Gallo wrong to pass a resolution against Florida orange juice.

I ask the unions to join our boycott.

I ask the Mayor to publicly pronounce his joining

the boycott.

I ask Caesar Chavez to publicly join the boycott. I ask the District Attorney and his assistant, Douglas Munson, to publicly join the boycott.

I ask our Gay leaders to publicly join the boycott. I ask the NGTF to join the boycott.

We don't need any mass meetings or rallies. All we need is for everyone to just stop drinking it.

As Dr. Frances Welsing speaking on racism, so we'll put it, "We'd better learn from history. And we'd better wake up!"

In a meeting on March 15 at 330 Grove, two committees were formed - finance and publicity. The Coalition will raise money by setting up booths in the Castro and Polk areas, distributing collection cans in Gay businesses, asking Gay bar owners to put on fund raisers. The publicity committee will distribute literature, enter a motion supporting the boycott at this week's CDC Convention in San Jose.

A fund-raising dance is tentatively scheduled for April 29.

The Support Coalition has been in constant touch with Miami Gay activists who believe that combating the Christian Crusade to Save Our Children will be an up-hill battle.

It has been reported that Anita Bryant is pledged to make her homophobic campaign a national crusade. She plans to expose the backers of the Abzug Bill, recently introduced into Congress to insure Gay rights, as corrupt and disreputable.

S.F. - Miami Gay Support

MIAMI GAY SUPPORT COALITION FORMS

An 'ad hoc' committee of Gay Action has formed and is formulating plans to join the Gay rights battle shaping up again in Dade County, Florida.

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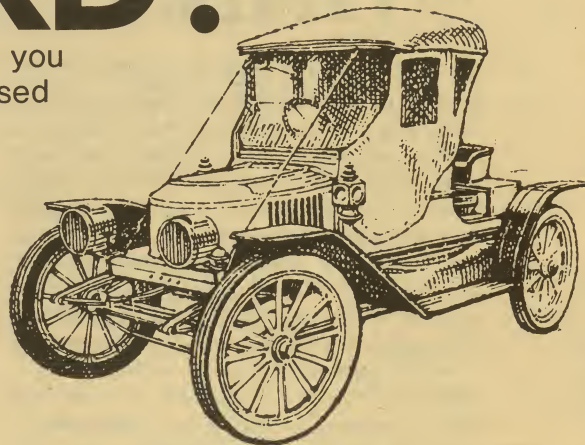
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FRANCHISE MOTORS

Behind the Headlines

Anita Bryant - Job Right For All?

by George Mendenhall

Reality, to most people, does not come from human experience - at least not in this country. Reality comes from the media. "Life" is presented to us on television, on the radio, in the movies and in the newspapers. That is a fact of life that has worked to our advantage in recent years as the media has discovered and accepted homosexuality. The effect of this has been phenomenal in changing attitudes and is helping Gay people to realize what is properly theirs - legal and social equality.

That homosexuality has become more acceptable is a fact that also frightens and confuses a sizable part of our population. Religious fundamentalists and many parents believe that fiendish homosexuals lurk around school grounds waiting to convert. This fear is real to the unforgotten. Those who fear that the mere exposure to

homosexuality makes one homosexual deny their own childhood.

In this atmosphere, a somewhat popular entertainer has expressed her ignorance and fear in regard to homosexuality. It appears logical that those who are favorable to Gay rights would attempt to use the media - already friendly - to inform the entertainer and her followers how unjustified their fear is. Teachers, psychologists and political activists could move up front to explain that homosexuals are no more fiendish than heterosexuals. It would appear that Metropolitan Community Church and those active in other Christian churches could be fully Gay and Christian explaining that the Bible includes passages denying certain foods that Christians now eat and even calls for the stoning of sinners, which few Christians condone today.

The immediate response by some Gay activists to Anita Bryant was to use the media - not to argue against her conclusions, but to deny her employment with Singer Sewing Machine Co. and the Florida Citrus Commission. A campaign was informally launched and supported by much of the Gay press. The implication was clear: those who present illogical arguments in an attempt to deny Gay people their rights will themselves be denied employment.

The National Gay Task Force and the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club have chosen not to endorse the attempt to deny Bryant employment. They evidently believe, as this reporter does, that employment should not be denied unless the reason for denial is based on a person's inability to perform the task. That should include us - as Gay persons - and Anita

Bryant.

* * *

Two local UHF television stations present nationally syndicated, taped religious programs that distort and misinform the public on homosexuality. They are Channels 20 (KEMO) and 38 (KVOF). These are taped and circulated nationally through an informal network of religious stations. Although the programs are seen by relatively few people, those who do see them are often the most ultra-conservative fundamentalists who raise considerable doubt in the minds of legislators with their incessant letter-writing.

Recently, two young men spoke on Channel 20's "700 Club" to express their homosexual unhappiness and then how they had "discovered Jesus" and become straight. The implication was emphatic that you cannot be a Christian and a homosexual. One admitted that he really enjoyed his years as a homosexual but that he later was "saved" and now he realizes that he was actually unhappy. Talk about brainwashing!

The two men run a "converted Gay Christians" clinic in Southern California, where they "help former Gays" to adjust to the new non-Gay way of life. They call it "Exit" and the M.C. of the television show thought it was a great Christian Gay people undertaking. The men were asked if they agreed with M.C.C.'s Rev. Troy Perry that homosexuality is the day that is inherited through the KPFA-FM (94.1) presents genes. The retired Gays told him that they were sure that Rev. Perry

never made such a statement ... without informed people on these programs, the rhetoric about homosexuality can go on and on with such distortions.

Anita Bryant surfaced on another taped, national TV program - "PTL Club" on Channel 38. Bryant appeared with a director of her "Save the Children, Inc." group - husband Bob Green. Green called for viewers to oppose legislation that would give Gay people equality in housing and employment. This kind of political persuasion is common on "non-political," non-profit religious programs.

Opposition to this kind of programming can be made direct to the stations involved with copies to the Federal Communications Commission. Bill Hartman, a Gay local media person, has complained to the FCC about the Bryant-Green program and has asked for equal time to present views favorable to Gay legislation. He is to be commended.

The FCC has not addressed itself to Gay rights in the media, but it may be confronted with this issue when the religious television stations apply for license renewal. In the next issue of B.A.R. we will be presenting the views of one of those commissioners who is favorable to justice for a great Christian Gay people.

Since the "media" is the name of the game, mark your calendar for April 6 - Perry that homosexuality is the day that is inherited through the KPFA-FM (94.1) presents genes. The retired Gays told him that they were sure that Rev. Perry

Anita's Petition Reaches Goal

MIAMI - The petition drive organized by Anita Bryant and her "Save the Children, Inc." crusade has collected enough signatures for a referendum on a new Dade County ordinance banning discrimination in housing and job opportunities on the basis of sexual orientation. County law gives the

county commission 30 days either to repeal the recent ordinance or set up a special election within 120 days. At press time, word was that the latter option was chosen, and the election is set for June 7.

Election officials estimated 53,000 voters signed the petitions. Only 10,000 were needed, and election officials have certified 11,072.

Bryant opposed the law claiming it gave homosexuals a chance to recruit children.

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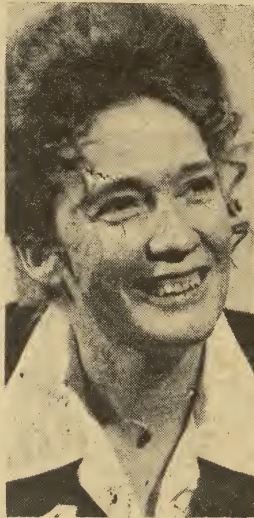
Politics & People

Younger's Vote on Rose Bird

by Wayne Friday

When Attorney General Evelle Younger voted to confirm Rose Bird as the new Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, he served Governor Brown notice that Evelle Younger is no political novice and is, in fact, a man that the young Governor is going to have trouble with in next year's election. When Brown chose to appoint a woman minus experience on the bench, he put the Attorney General on the spot; Younger proved him wrong. Brown obviously knew that conservatives would object to a liberal on the bench and would pressure Younger to vote against confirmation (the two other potential GOP candidates, San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson and L.A. Police Chief Davis, were quick to add to Younger's supposed dilemma by opposing Bird). The pressure from conservatives did indeed come. Younger needs their support in a Republican primary, and what with the votes of the Commission on Judicial Appointments split, it became obvious that Younger's vote would decide. The pressure was tremendous. Younger's staff reported that a 'No' vote was urged by the highest of Republicans - hinting that even former Governor Reagan joined the cause against Bird.

After two days of testimony, Younger announced he would vote to confirm the Governor's choice. Younger interrupted a day-long succession of individual statements about Ms. Bird's nomination to say, "I'm prepared to vote to confirm the nomination of Rose Bird." The crowded Supreme Court chamber was swept by applause, for most speakers and spectators have supported Bird. "I do so reluctantly because many other judges are qualified to assume the position, but the law doesn't require the Governor to appoint a judge," Mr. Younger said. "This appointment does show a lack of respect for hundreds of judges in the state, some of them female, liberal and Democrat; but I cannot substitute my judgment for the Governor's." Younger said that he believed Brown should have appointed a judge who had demonstrated a thorough knowledge of law and a judicial temperament; however, he said, the fact that Ms. Bird was not opposed by police officers and other law enforcement groups carried great weight with him. "My only responsibility is to determine when Rose Bird is qualified," Mr. Younger said. "In the absence of evidence to the contrary, I am compelled to find that she is indeed qualified. The Governor has



ROSE ELIZABETH BIRD

not deceived anyone. He announced when he became Governor the kind of appointments he intended to make, and she follows this profile. The decision to nominate Rose Bird was, in effect, made by our voters in 1974." In other words, Younger was telling Californians that if they didn't like the appointments Brown was making, they had only themselves to blame, since they should have been aware when they elected him.

Previously, the Commission confirmed the first Black member of the court, Superior Court Judge Wiley Manuel of Oakland. It has been rumored that Younger was an early supporter of Manuel's appointment before it was made public by the Governor. By voting to confirm Rose Bird, Younger has won the support of many in the feminist movement and those in the liberal community who were certain he would vote against her. In doing so, he took away what Governor Brown's advisors were hoping to use as a campaign tactic against Younger. But now Bird is confirmed and the Republican Attorney General is viewed, in some quarters, as a man with a garland on his head; a man who has a heart after all. "Had I the authority, I would have appointed someone other than Rose Bird. But, having determined that she is qualified, I have no legal or moral right to substitute my judgment for the Governor's."

One marveling critic of the Attorney General called it a "statesmanlike performance." In the end, Younger voted in a dramatic way that caught most observers, including the Governor himself, by

surprise and left Younger with a "man of conscience" image. It is no secret that Brown would like to take a run at Jimmy Carter again, but first he must get re-elected Governor. He will have to do a lot of fence-mending if he wants to get by the one big obstacle - Evelle J. Younger. The Republican Attorney General is a proven vote-getter (the only Republican to win statewide office while Brown was being elected Governor); he has the death penalty issue solidly in his corner; and the way he handled the Rose Bird nomination should plainly show Jerry Brown that Evelle Younger is one hell of a smart politician. Ah, yes, the race for Governor next year should be a beauty.

POLITICS & POKER...

Gay voters in L.A. being courted by both Mayor Bradley and his April 5 Primary opponent, State Senator Alan Robbins... those pushing to repeal Prop. T, meaning mostly the CoC and other downtown interests, aided by some of our so-called Gay "leaders" have attained the necessary signatures; and the scheme to kill District Elections before it has had a chance will be put to the voters again in June... in reply to the recent question by the L.A. TIMES, "Would you vote to override the governor's veto of a bill to restore the death penalty?" Senator Marks replied, "No." Senator Foran answered he "didn't know." Asked the same question, Assemblymen Agnos, Brown and McCarthy replied, "No." ... Pete McCloskey being urged to run for U.S. Senator next year... San Jose Assemblyman Alister McAlister (D) will run for

Attorney General... the newest State Senator in California is Alan Sieroty (D) elected to the unexpired term in the 22nd L.A. District... NEWSWEST magazine comes out the 28th with a scathing story titled "The Broken Promises of Mayor Moscone"... some liberal Republicans would like Milton Marks to think about seeking a higher office... Supervisor Feinstein slated to become HUD Director?... Attorney Jim Reilly, candidate for City Attorney, warmly received when he spoke to overflow Tavern Guild meeting... Attorney General Younger served as Grand Marshall at the recent Chinese

New Year Parade... California labor leaders miffed at Senator Cranston's vote on the Senate Water Projects Amendment (a bill intended to force the President to spend funds appropriated by Congress for 19 water projects including two in California); Cranston voted against the amendment while Hayakawa voted for it... Ruth Carter Stapleton, the President's sister, spent time last week working at the Haight-Ashbury Free Drug Clinic - "there is a solution for every problem," says the 47 year old North Carolina evangelist, who has been hitting the Gospel trail for the past ten years preaching her unique brand of spiritual psychotherapy...



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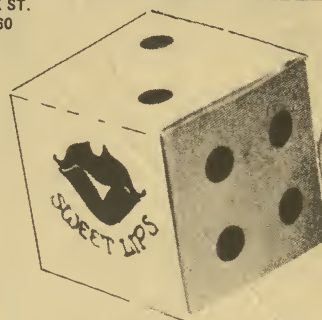
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HANGING 1977

April 4th 5th 6th

Women of Wonder

I have been asked why don't I do something on Lesbians. To be more responsive to the needs of our Gay sisters, the B.A.R. has established a "Women's Space" and is looking for good Lesbian writers.

I could not be more overjoyed that this paper is getting involved in long-neglected Lesbian causes.

But the rub is that I don't know that many of my Gay sisters, though I do keep up-to-date on their various activities (especially those dealing with Lesbian mothers). And when you deal with a segment of the Lesbian community whose most vocal members are also screaming separatists, getting specifics on the Lesbian community as a

whole is like trying to box fog.

So, the comments here should not necessarily be taken as gospel, but only as the efforts of a Gay seeker after insights.

I can tell you what today's Lesbian community is NOT. It's not what it was a few years ago, when women like Del Martin and Jo Daly were alone in the forefront of the movement. Then, there was the original Daughters of Bilitis. Today, there are women's coffee-houses, bookstores, leather and craft shops, publications, gardening services and even printing companies, as well as the DOB and forty-eleven other Lesbian groups, up and down the state.

The 1977 Lesbian, from my observations, is a LOT more independent. Bygone days presented an image of Lesbians and Gay men working together in harmony, but this was usually because the Lesbian's sentiments were a mirror-image of those the Gay males had (case in print: putting Del Martin, Phyllis Lyon and Jo Daly chockablock with Jim Foster, Duke Smith and David Goodstein). Now matters are taken in feminist terms first. She looks out for herself because nobody ever did it for her in the past.

And something else she's not: she's NOT impressed by the "noblesse oblige" of Gay organizations who solicit her membership. In her excellent column for NEWSWEST, Terry DeCrescenzo points out the chief fault of nearly every Gay group in existence: "The programs are male-oriented, the meetings are male-oriented and the ambience, the language and the social interaction are all male-identified . . . (they) involve the men as the givers and the women as the receivers. They are addressed to the needs of the men, rather than the women."

This cuts right to the heart of the matter. When the Gay Freedom Day Committee meets and immediately sets up a rule that all major committees must be co-chaired by both a Lesbian and a Gay male, it gives sisters a motivation for getting involved. Yet when a half-dozen sisters attend the inaugural meeting of Gay Action, only to find that the programs have already been set up by men and will involve male issues only, such as the Castro violence, they write off their expectations and don't return.

Because the Gay male community has screwed Lesbians over so badly in the past, it is now up to us to take the initiative and take a sincere interest in what our sisters are going through. And if we want them in our groups, we'd damn well better be ready

Editor:

Enclosed is an article that I hope you will consider for publication in the next issue of B.A.R.

I was recently arrested as a result of the present 'round-up' being conducted by the San Jose Police Department. After having several discussions with Dan Relic about it and hiring an attorney, I have decided to contest the case in court in the hope of doing some good for the Gay community in general, not to mention my own personal reputation that has been challenged.

* * *

"I'm an undercover San Jose Police Officer, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST! The charge is 'Solicitation for a Lewd Sex Act' - put your hands on the steering wheel while I attach these handcuffs. . ."

Chances are, some of you reading this may have heard that monologue before; hopefully those of you that haven't, never will.

I'm one of the increasing number of people that did hear the lines, and was subsequently arrested, fingerprinted, and "booked." It's a sickening feeling to know that you have just acquired a "Police Record" for the first time - after thirty-three years of leading a responsible life with no prior legal complications.

The first reaction is shock - total disbelief. "This can't be happening . . . this is 1977 . . . the State Legislature has just passed a long overdue Bill guaranteeing the right of sexual encounter between 'Consenting Adults' - free of police harassment!"

In order for 'Consenting Adults' to 'consent', it is necessary for them to first discuss and establish what it is that they are consenting to. This is not only an obvious prerequisite, it is also an exercise of free speech that is assured to all of us as U.S. citizens; a Constitutional 'Right' that most of us take for granted. How then are we to enjoy our legal right to privacy as 'Consenting Adults' if any prior discussion of the matter between ourselves and another person is to be construed as 'solicitation' by our diligent local Police Department?

Are we to assume that everyone we meet at a place where singles gather is a potential undercover officer? Are we to conduct our social-sexual lives with the constant fear that the next person we talk to may be armed with a tape recorder and the specific goal of arresting us should the conversation turn to sexuality? Are we to consider every new acquaintance as the loaded chamber in the San Jose Police Department's version of Russian Roulette?

As potential 'victims' in a society of increasing violence and street crime, can we afford to have our trained law enforcement officers lurking in dark corners baiting sexual traps - while violent crime escalates with less surveillance because undetermined numbers of the Vice Squad are busy elsewhere playing with their tape recorders? Is this our much-heralded new Police Commissioner's idea of 'innovative law enforcement'? Does the growing list of 'easy arrests' that result from this kind of scurrilous police procedure really impress anyone at City Hall when the Commissioner goes shopping for more tax money and manpower?

Have YOU ever suggested the "possibility" of sex with someone, after "they" have approached "you", engaged in lengthy conversation, and made it seemingly clear by their conduct physically and verbally that such a suggestion was "expected" and "welcome"? If you have, you were risking arrest for "Soliciting a Lewd Sex Act." Did you mention a specific sexual act? Was it "lewd"?

Have the powers at the San Jose Police Department invented or discovered a "universal" definition of "lewd" that they wish to impose on the 600,000 citizens of our community? Have we surrendered the choice of 'whom' we are going to go to bed with, and the option of what we may or may not do there? I don't believe so.

"Ignorance of the Law is not a defense for having broken the Law" . . . I wonder how many of YOU, reading this, can accurately quote the laws as they apply to the conduct of our private social-sexual lives? Are we to line up en masse or send daily requisitions to the vice squad for a 'legal opinion' prior to saying or doing anything of a sexual nature? Are we to receive detailed instructions from some 'inspired soul' with an Anita Bryant mentality?

If we are to enjoy the basic human right of conducting our social-sexual lives within the boundaries of 'legality', we must first know exactly what these boundaries and limitations consist of. Obviously, if one is going to "play the game", one should first know the "rules." That seems logical and fair, doesn't it? There is a 'catch' however. These boundaries of 'public decency' are drafted, enforced and judged by our various tax-supported officials and public servants. Therefore, the 'rules of the game' are open to any number of manipulations, degrees of enforcement, interpretation, judgments, vague

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applications. In other words, we are playing with a crooked deck. We are expected to play the game according to the 'Law,' and cannot defend a transgression of this 'Law' on the basis of ignorance; while the dealers shuffle and redefine the rules according to whim, be it political, legal ambition or statistical justification for an increased budget at the Police Department (presumably to buy more tape recorders and fashionably tight clothes to make the entrapment/harassment game more efficient so it will increase the yield of arrests and ruined reputations).

Those of you that are heterosexual have no cause for alarm or caution in breaking the laws as they apply to social-sexual conduct - there is no reward or advantage to be gained in the wholesale round-up of 'straights' - in fact, I'm sure that there would be a prompt and overwhelming protest that would halt the round-up should such an event occur. The "Solicitation" laws currently being used to harass and entrap homosexuals and bisexuals in the community 'could' be applied just as easily to your everyday propositions, lewd suggestions, sexual liaisons, and ass-pinching antics at the office; but they are NOT. These laws are enforced SELECTIVELY, and disproportionately to harass and intimidate the Gay/Bi sexual minority because we do not have the political leverage to DEMAND that our basic human rights be respected. Unfortunately, we have allowed ourselves to be literally trampled and abused by the very system that we are supporting with our tax dollars. Being in the midst of another mass round-up and harassment campaign here in San Jose, I think it's about time that we faced the fact that this sort of thing is going to continue periodically, until we realize that it affects ALL of us; and that we, therefore, have a responsibility to demand an end to it via whatever legal/political means.

Individually, there's not much that we can do about harassment tactics or entrapment. If YOU happen to be the next pawn in the game, the choice is simple; you can help to perpetuate and insure the success of these procedures by pleading 'guilty' then dashing back into the safety of your 'closet' to resume a keyhole view of the world; or, you can insist on your rights by defending yourself against whatever charges have been made. The second choice is not an easy one, but it may be one of the few things you can do as an individual to help bring these tactics to a halt. When you defend yourself against entrapment by going to court, it deprives your tormentors of the quick arrest statistic that they've come to expect. It helps diminish their 'reward' for harassing you and forces them to invest the time and public expense of a full court proceeding to justify and defend their little numbers game. If we ALL demanded due process after being harassed, the total cost in time and money for each 'statistic' might cancel out the value of the 'reward' and thereby lower the enthusiasm for these crusades. It may even result in a reappraisal of these destructive rampages, allowing many of our highly-trained vice officers to concentrate on their primary job of protecting the citizenry from violence and street crime (if that isn't too much to hope for).

If you 'are' or have been a victim of the current 'round-up', give this matter serious thought. You are not alone. Groups such as the Lambda Ass'n and M.C.C. are available to advise or help in a variety of ways. TOGETHER we can demand that our individual rights be respected and hopefully bring an end to this double standard of law enforcement.

Incidentally, up until a few days ago, I had never been involved with Gay rights issues - I had always figured it was somebody else's problem. Thanks to my arresting officer, it is also 'my' problem, and I intend to be very much involved from now on.

by Art James

Sonoma County Women's Groups

RUNES (Women's news journal; monthly) P.O. Box 703, Cotati 94928

WOMANSPACE (Feminist Radio) KBBF FM - Sonoma State College, every Sunday, 8-10 pm

SCWAR (Sonoma County Woman Against Rape) (707) 545-RAPE

VALLEY OF THE MOON WOMEN'S CENTER, 18303 Sonoma Hwy., Boyes Hot Springs, CA (707) 996-5583 - ask for Diana

RIVER QUEEN WOMEN'S CENTER, 17140 River Road (P.O. Box 173), Guerneville 95446 (707) 869-0333

THE WISHING WELL (the Singles Register of Sonoma County Lesbians), P.O. Box 1711, Santa Rosa 95403

RISEING WOMAN BOOKS, 600 Wilson, Santa Rosa 95401 (707) 545-6590

WOMEN'S CENTER, Santa Rosa Jr. College, 1501 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa (707) 527-4375

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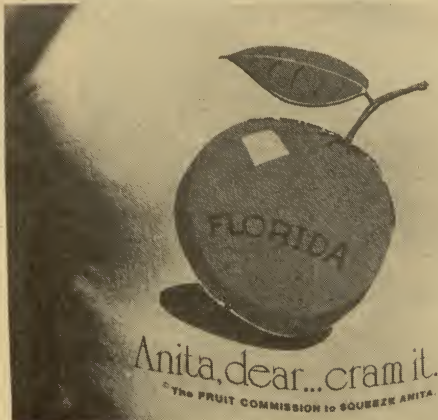
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Anita Bryant will reportedly bring her anti-Gay crusade to California in April. The growing anti-Anita movement has not only resulted in demonstrations and boycotts of Florida orange juice, it's resulted in the hottest new T-shirt in some time.

The shirt features a large Florida orange and the message: "Anita, dear . . . cram it." The shirt is signed by "The Fruit Commission to Squeeze Anita." Created by artist Ric Koerner, the anti-Anita T-shirt has been printed in three colors (orange, green & black) on a white shirt with green ribbed-rings around the neck and sleeves.

"We're rushing to keep up with the demand," says Jim Kudla of NICE, the San Francisco company that manufactures and distributes the shirt. "Our first printing was sold out in three days and the second lot will be in local stores by this weekend. We're already getting mail order and store requests from New York, L.A. and, of course, Florida," Kudla adds.

The shirt was featured prominently in coverage of the Anita Bryant story this past week on TV stations KTVU, KPIX and KGO-TV.

The good-looking shirt gets its message across loud and clear now and is likely to be a collectors' item long after Anita's crusade is forgotten.

Editorial

Final Thoughts on the Gay Press, San Francisco

At the Bay Area Reporter we willingly admit that unless Gay journals improve, we cannot argue for a loyal Gay constituency. The Gay Press - as is Gay Liberation - is still in its infancy. The B.A.R. is in its 7th year; Sentinel in its 4th. Should we be co-opted, snuffed out, before we come of age is a fate that involves the entire Gay community - not only locally, but world wide.

At the B.A.R. we are pledged to ever-improving copy, wider coverage, a larger readership. And yes . . . even a profit. To inform, to entertain, and to serve the Gay community.

The most frequent request coming into the office, "Please drop off more copies of the paper." An encouraging sign, but only feasible within the realities of our bank balance. Second, would we include this press release, cover that event, publicize this function. Both our advertisers (and those businesses who don't) and our Gay charities make legitimate claims on our space. Our artists, our politicians, our oppressed find us often their sole outlet.

It is easily quipped that the local Gay papers are a composite of junk. At our worst would the Gay community be better off without us? At our best are we not a remarkable, indispensable facet to the "pinkings of America."

We believe that the Gay public is a partner (not just a bystander) in the business of who carries the banner and responsibility of Gay news and Gay opinion. We know that we owe our readers. We sometimes wonder if our fans, and even our detractors, wonder what they might owe their Gay pushers and scribblers.

I have "closet" friends who wouldn't go out of their way to pick up a Gay paper if they rained on their heads. Yet at the same time have come to take for granted every advantage that the Gay activists have fought for and achieved in San Francisco. Gay men and women are accepted and enjoy greater freedom in the Bay Area, not out of any largesse on the part of the general public, but because some segment of the Gay community has wrested and held on to those rights and opportunities.

The question that will confront us all in the next five years is no longer whether we will achieve our liberation and enjoy our civil rights, but whether we will be able to preserve our identity.

And the day the S.F. CHRONICLE instructs its faithful to Suck Cocks for liberation, we know the time has come to throw in our trick towels.

P. Lorch

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Porno Ordinance Update

by Mark Joplin

The S.F. Planning Commission turned thumbs-down on Supervisor Dianne Feinstein's controversial Porno Ordinance, which would relocate or close down the majority of adult bookstores and theaters in the city, as well as impose stricter regulations on signs, permits and display of materials.

In their resolution, the Planning Commission (did) not find that the public necessity, convenience and general welfare require these proposed amendments to Section 221 of the City Planning Code (the '1000-ft.' rule, stating that no adult bookstore or theater may be located within 1000 feet of any residential area, and that bookstores must be located more than 500 feet from each other).

The Board's Planning, Housing and Urban Development Committee was to consider the Commission's negative declaration at their March 15 meeting, but the matter was not calendared, leading to the speculation that co-authors Feinstein and Supervisor Terry Francois will re-draft the proposed ordinance to comply with Planning Commission recommendations.

The same day that the PHUD Committee was to consider the Commission's decision, Supervisor John Molinari submitted to City Attorney Thomas O'Connor a request for an opinion regarding several aspects of Feinstein's ordinance, using information gathered from an earlier B.A.R. analysis of the proposal ("Inside the Feinstein Porno Ordinance" - 1/6/77).

Among the questions asked were:

* Since Section 791-a of the Feinstein ordinance defines an adult bookstore as any establishment which uses "5% or more" of its shelf space for the purpose of selling pornographic materials; and since paragraphs c. and d. in that same section define publications such as "Playboy" and "Playgirl" as "pornographic materials," would mom-and-pop stores which use 5% or more of their shelf space to sell such magazines be classified as adult bookstores?

* Would they have to move, in order to conform to the 1000-ft. rule?

* Since Section 791.12 states that no adult bookstore may display "any stock in trade" where it may be viewed from the street, would these 'mom-and-pop' stores which use 5% of their shelf space to sell "Playboy" and other magazines not be allowed to display food, sundries and other non-pornographic items where they may be seen by the

public?

* Would theaters such as the Northpoint or the Coliseum be required to move in order to conform to the 1000-ft. rule if they were to show an X-rated feature such as "Last Tango in Paris" for 37 days, or 10% of their operating time (the definition of an adult theater, according to Section 790.1 of the Feinstein ordinance)?

Gay Sunshine Press

Gay Sunshine Press has just released its book list for 1977. The locally-based, non-profit organization was founded in 1970. For the first five years of its existence, it published only the cultural/literary journal "Gay Sunshine."

The highly-acclaimed tabloid is devoted to printing innovative and catalytic writing by Gay people, past and present. Writers such as Ginsberg, Weiners, Vidal, regularly appear in its pages. In 1976 Tennessee Williams stated, "The only completely literate and serious Gay journal with which I am acquainted."

Since 1975 the Press has been publishing cheap books and papers. For 1977, editor and publisher Winston Leyland is offering "Men Loving Men: A Gay Sex Guide and Consciousness Book" by Mitch

Walker. Also "Angels of the Lyre: A Gay Poetry Anthology." Volumes of write Gay Sunshine Press, poetry by Aaron Shurin, P.O. Box 40397, S.F., Ca. Harold Norse, Ed Cox are 94104 or phone 8243184.



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The Men in My Life

Carlos

by Paul-Francis Hartmann

Carlos told me his mother was Mexican-American, his father Italian. He wasn't fair; he wasn't swarthy - his skin was the color of parchment. Opaque over a flawless frame. His hair was coarsely thick and curly, an espresso-coffee brown. Tall, taut, and almost muscular ... at 30, there were moments I saw him as uncommonly beautiful.

He told me that the first of May he had packed all his belongings in his compact car and left Los Angeles, "to check out" San Francisco. Was he here for a vacation? Yes. Was he here to find a job? No, not now. Maybe. He wanted now to get back and was

waiting only for his unemployment check to arrive on that Friday. Thursday evening he informed me that he was totally broke. "That's o.k.," I said; "It was me who asked you to dinner." "I just wanted to let you know," he said. (You don't let anyone "know" it's wise to bury the credit cards.) And I sensed he knew I must be wondering what I had gotten myself into. Embarrassment can sometimes be an omnidirectional muddle.

From what he said I gathered Carlos was experiencing the panic and depression that often accompanies crossing into a new decade or five-year blocs of aging. "Is that all there is...?" He re-

marked several times, "You're so much better educated than me. It wouldn't be long before you grew tired of me... it's always been that way." His voice was like rich chocolate, carefully, slowly articulated. A baritone with a soft creamy whiff of Spanish tones. "I've always been a doormat for somebody - they say about me, 'He'll never settle down.' But he's still a terrific lay!" And THAT he was. I wanted to respond, but to sort out all the implications and defeatist innuendos ... where does one begin. Certainly not by launching a treatise on self-fulfilling prophecies.

Untriggered, Carlos would wander into speculative monologues, wondering at life's inequities. Melancholy probes. Times I had to ask him to repeat; the musings were so softly uttered, so spun along. What good are pocketfuls of glib pick-me-ups I thought. Life for Carlos probably had been a long line of subtractions. Suddenly his deep-throated laughter would obliterate the gloom. "I really DO need a shrink; wouldn't you agree, Paul? Give my ego a boost ... let's fuck!" And he would throw his naked body on the bed ... into the give and take he knew best about.

Once filled, he would entwine into the curves of my body with fawn-like trust. To lie there for as many hours as I chose to hold him close.

* * *

This I learned of his vacation. The first night in San Francisco, his car was broken into, and all his stereo components were stolen from the back seat. He then rented a room in the Haight for the month but after four days found the living conditions intolerable. Next he retreated to Fremont where a gas station attendant had said he was welcome to crash - if he wanted. From what he revealed (I had learned not to quiz.) it turned out to be a minor nightmare. He found himself in the

midst of a bikers' feud, replete with slashings, burning bikes, and his "host" being carted off by the police on an outstanding Texas warrant for grand theft. Carlos left - having been had - shaken. He told me there was more he didn't even want to go into. Once back in the city, he had to pawn his toaster and digital clock radio. He asked for nothing nor would he accept anything. His check would be his ransom.

Carlos and I met in midweek and in mid-passage ... between projects, between campaigns ... an early Wednesday in June. I had yet to turn the calendar.

Idling at a Castro St. bar (basking and basketing), I had been witnessing (less than listening to) the parakeet posturings of a Manhattanite. A temporarily transplanted bird of paradise, singing the mock praises of "Frisco." He was the hot-house lover of a major backer of "Chorus Line." I gathered the pair were camp-following their profits.

His body, trim as a spike, took positions in turn: profile tilted up and left, toe to point. In his chirping voice he was extolling the plusses of the relaxed, laid-back West Coast lifestyle.

He snapped his heavily gold-braceleted arm on the bar; the single diamond plug centered in his tight sweater never moved.

I turned away from his pop eyes poised in space. Away from his brilliantine study and noticed on my left a pair of languid, liquid eyes watching us softly. He smiled. I turned back to the young bagatelle and said, "Let me introduce you to a typical Californian then." I took the gentle hand gently and led the observer around to face the New Yorker. Three animals took each other's measurements: a grizzly playing tricks, a sloe-eyed seal pup, and a gazelle about to be startled. His nose sought higher air. His diamond flickered and he was gone.

Carlos slipped his arm under mine and there it rested for three days. For my sake? Or because he had nowhere else to go? (Those kind of questions plague me, more so when they refuse to be resolved...)

I found Carlos to be open, but not when I fished for facts. Then, unexpectedly, he would shower me with information, showing me snap-

shots of each member of his family. I would wonder, but quickly learned not to intrude - there was much he didn't want to talk about, then there was much he had to say. He wanted to talk about where he was and where he was headed - not where he had been. I "wanted" history and little was served up. I wondered ... was it time to lock up the family silver. The Pacific Heights me said, "by all means ... play it safe." The Castro me said, "Wait and see ... you have no cause..."

"Paul, I'll call you when I get to L.A."

"Where will you be?" I asked. "I don't know yet. An apartment motel, my sister's? I'll know when I get there and get myself started back into a routine. Routine keeps one together ... wouldn't you say so...?" I avoided the question, brushing my hand over the tattoo on his upper arm. "Do you like it?" he asked. "I do myself, but I'm going to have the 'LOVE' changed to 'AMOR'."

Two days later he called as he promised, and I was surprised. It must have carried over the wires. "Don't tell me you had already begun to forget me, my friend?"

"Don't say things like that, Carlos," I shot back and thought to myself I don't need all this truth. And then the enveloping mahogany laugh. "I'll send you an address when I get one."

* * *

I don't make a practice of walking all over people. I am not a collector of stray pups. I dislike stupidity and find innocence awkward. Neither am I any doctor of tortured souls. For that matter, I am not even attracted to Latins...

Carlos came to San Francisco to find something. Perhaps to get away from something. Perhaps to be injured more? Perhaps even to "find" me... He had to remain here lost and wounded - perhaps for me to "find" him. If only for that beautiful laughter, I traded some sinew. Perchance to reaffirm - only between ourselves - secretly, that something of value remains. Somehow, somewhere between men of good will.

Carlos, vaya con dios ... con amor...

City Jobs?

Anyone interested in one of the many job openings that the city has can check out the listings either at City Hall itself or at Castro Camera, 575 Castro St.

Current listings range from lifeguards to engineers to locksmiths to gardeners.

As new openings take place, the listings will be posted. The city is an equal opportunity employer.

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Smile 'Til It Hurts

Southern Scandals

The Serpents M/C celebrated their 9th year last Sunday afternoon with a timely party at 32 Page St. It was one of those nostalgic events with lots of people on hand to wish the club well. On Saturday night, March 26, the Cheaters M/C will celebrate their 10th anniversary at another soiree from 7 to 9 pm at the 527 Club, and congratulations to that group for making it to another milestone. The fact that these clubs have been a cogent group so long attests to the camaraderie and altruism predominant in the bike clubs. My best and sincere wishes to both clubs for continued success.

* * *

At the latest roasting of a personality at the 527 Club, Dowager Empress Flame really got hers! Almost everyone got into the act and let it fly for once. La Flame endured the ordeal with nonchalance, but some of the tales (tails?) that were paraded upfront made for a sizzling evening, and the atmosphere in the room was slightly toasted, to say the least.

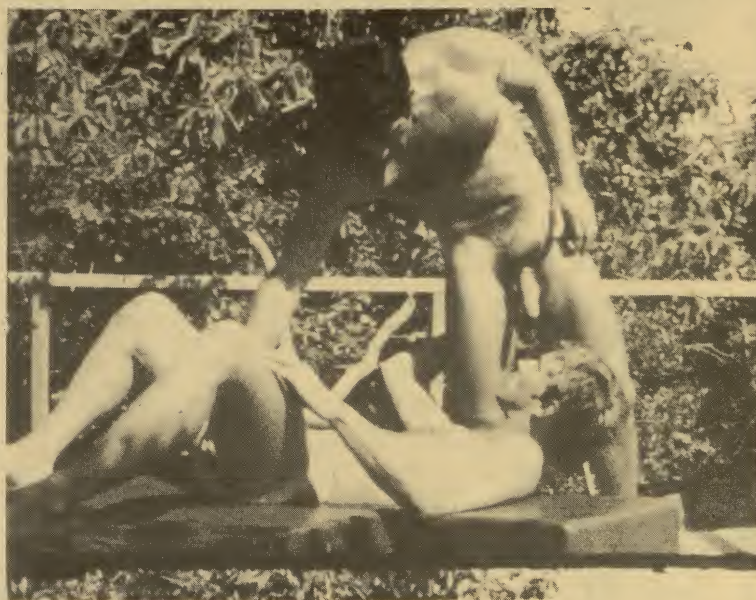
* * *

While a contingent of the loyal made the trek to Sacramento to witness our own Pat Montclair crowned Empress of the capital city with our fabulous Jane Doe really knockin' 'em out with a stunning appearance, the local queens got a taste of a REAL party when Sam Sarino of Bones invited several hundred people to make a cameo appearance in the home that used to be owned by Norma Talmadge. The neighbors on the 400 block of Roosevelt Way really got

an eyeful when the guests started to arrive; a huge searchlight and red carpet were out front and the ballroom in the fabled mansion was decked out in Cala lilies, Gardenias, White Orchids, silver and black decorations and an array of personalities right out of the 30's. A saucy cigarette girl passed out smokes; champagne libations were the hit of the evening, and imaginative costumes were in abundance. Each guest's arrival was videotaped then shown later on, and it looked like a Hollywood premiere, complete with persons who flew in from Boston especially for the event. It was a sumptuous party, and Sam and Pete are bound to do another one sometime. Coming from Boston, they collaborated on this one for the first time, and it was fantastic!

* * *

THE MASSA-KISTIC TANGLE . . . For the guidance and information of persons who don't know better, Bryant Street was NOT named for Ms. Anita - she of the rotten oranges from Florida; and while you're boycotting Cala Markets and other Floridan hangouts, remember, Jack-in-the-Box serves California orange juice, while MacDonald's serves the other kind . . . All the grassaholics were at the STUD the other night to see Sweet Chariot rock out once more with the Sassy Sharon in complete control and making everyone happy; last Sunday, Buena Vista held the crowd on a cloud so high, it was superb! These two groups are making it big, and I hope the Circus-Circus committee will consider



A dark-eyed, hairy chested stud surprises a good looking blond by a swimming pool. No time is wasted and the blond starts getting it . . . good and hard! A scene from "Boys in the Sand" - Now at the Nob Hill Cinema

them for the big bash they will throw on July 31 . . . Wakefield Poole, not content with the stupendous success of his Hot Flash of America store on upper Market, will once again dive into the world of celluloid with his new movie currently in production and to be called "REAL TO REEL - TAKE ONE" starring quite a few locals and transferring their fantasies into realities; it sounds like a terrific idea to me . . . Tequila Tom Avila is now working at HANS' in Oakland, necessitating usage of AC Transit. Tell me, darrning, what were you and that bus driver doing in a darkened bus behind the East Bay Terminal, or is there more to commuting than I've been led to believe? . . . The Mind Shaft is closing down for remodeling any day now with Pearl Heart making a huge concert thing the night of closing and re-turning for the grand re-

opening. Understand it will be re-named Alfalfa's - oops, I mean Alfie's; and yes, I'm wondering what it's all about too . . . Don't forget, Emperor Hector will throw an auction for Operation Concern at the Twin Peaks on Tuesday, March 22; so drag out all your throw-aways, but bring some cash, as they need the money, honey . . . Oil Can Harry's has expanded their facilities and threw this big free bash on Monday for invited guests only, and the peons got to see it on Tuesday; since I didn't get an invitation (again?) I cannot tell you exactly what the "unveiling" was all about, but be sure to check it out and while there ask them if they have a P.R. Department . . . Lisa Cardinale wafted into town last weekend on the arm of Ron (The Czar) Ross and was instantly given a Rabbit/Cherry Award at the House of Harmony - by Peter and

Tammy, of course . . . My thanks to the people in San Diego who nominated me for a Sandie Award on Monday, March 21; and congratulations to all the other nominees and the winners too, of course.

HOMO-SIDAL TENDENCIES (and other deviations) . . . Empress Jane Doe will hold her Investiture of the Court of the White Rose on Sunday, April 3, at 5:00 pm with booze, hors d'oeuvres (by Schatzi) and Diana Ross on film. Tickets are \$6.00 and are available from any one of the Doe Boys (and girls) . . . In case you haven't yet tried it, FORMULA 69 is on the market and available at the Trading Post, Folsom Gulch, Sutro Baths, Club Baths, Jaguar Book Store and at Dave Monroe's liquor store, Munchies, on 19th. Formula 69 is made from a recipe created in 1500 BC and is not only functional as a lubricant,

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• PERSONAL ADS AND MAIL ORDER PRODUCTS GALORE

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but it's healthy for you and tasty too - check it out ... The crown is barely settled on Jane Doe's pretty head and already campaigns are being planned for Empress XIII, notably George Banda of Club Dori running under the name of Bambi; and, let's see now, there's Herman, Dale

Evans, Carl Berry, Tammy Lynn, Tenderloin Tessie, Mylen Ann, Fifi Castle and Lenny Lynn running; it should be an interesting campaign ... Well, the Pendulum celebrated their 7th Anniversary on March 3 and blew away everyone in the Valley of the Dolls with a WEST-ERN band! All the local lads raced over there to check it out and good times were had. Jim Dwyer walked up to Michael "Mother" Frawley and said, "You're really hunky, man," to which Michael replied, "And gorgeous, too; don't you think?" It was then that I noticed Virgil Shealey faint and Bob Steele vomit - but it was fun ... The Andromeda also celebrated their Grand Opening two Sundays ago with Sylvester and Jose of Black Cat fame doing one of his operas. It was quite funny with Princess Royal Fanny, Empress Bella and Czarina Sweet Lips kibitzing all the way through "La Traviata."

New eatery on Sacramento between Polk and Van Ness called TOGO's - sandwiches up to two feet long and a real size queen's delight and are you reading this Regina Novak? Togo's used to be

a mortuary and the decor is, ah, er, death defying? Check it out ... Loretta Love is back from her meanderings in Seattle and San Diego and looking mighty slim these days with a healthy looking tan. Bo Magee of the Bolt is looking quite tan too, and when he's really loaded out, he's being called Chocolate Mess and do you have any relations in Portland, Mr. Magee? ... Congratulations to Van Emon, re-elected President of the CMC, with Jack Copeland the Veep and Mighty Joe Sanders the new Road Captain ... Who does that Vespa belong to that's always parked in front of the Bolt? ... And speaking of leather and things, did you hear about Col. Clinque of the Bolt who is making like Alex Haley and will soon come up with his ancestry in a thrilling tale entitled "BOOTS"?

know, Randella, get the hook ... New silver and red flocked wallpaper out on the market now and called "Flame A-Go-Go" and guess who has it on the walls of her new apartment? ... Etta James returns to the STUD on Tues & Wed, March 29 & 30, preceded by Crystal Piston on the 20th, Stoneground on the 21st, Rhythm Bones on the 27th and Kid Courage on the 28th; so get there early unless you want to miss out. Hi Pat, Jim, Maya, Dennis & Read a Beads!

Unless you're going to the coronation in Van-couver this weekend on

Saturday or the coronation in Long Beach on Sunday, the San Franciscans are throwing their annual Butch Brunch this Sunday, which is always a great and fun thing to attend. Hope to see you ALL there. And don't forget the Knights of Malta Installation of Officers on Saturday. Check with any bike clubber for prices and locations.

Closing it out once again, try and cooperate with other groups, get involved, do something constructive for your community and remember, if you don't play the game, don't try to make the rules - it won't work. Love your neighbors and remember, I love you all.

P.S. Thanks to Bill Taylor for giving credit where credit is due; you are a NICE man.

"Fruit Punch" Gay Radio 24-HOUR MARATHON

by George Mendenhall

The dynamic Gay Men's Radio Collective of KPFA-Berkeley celebrates the Gay lifestyle on Wednesday, April 6, with the nation's first 24-hour marathon. Comedy, music, poetry, politics, satire, discussions on tape and live-in-the-studio will fill a 6:00 am to 6:00 am schedule. It is unquestionably the most ambitious and challenging Gay programming ever con-

templated by any radio station.

KPFA is a listener-sponsored educational station that began Gay programming in 1973 when former program director Alan Farley initiated "Fruit Punch" and a "Gay organizations" series. "Punch" has since been produced by the Gay Men's Collective of KPFA, whose members are Kevin Burke, Guy Bishop-Pizzaro, Roland Schembari, Andy Seal and Lee Watson. Their Wednesday night "Punch" programs (9-10 pm) have brilliantly presented that which is meaningful to Gay listeners, as well as offering insights to the straight listener.

FRUIT PUNCH GAY RADIO - 24-HOUR MARATHON

This is the April 6-7 Gay program schedule for KPFA-FM (94.1). It begins on April 6 at 6:00 am and concludes on April 7 at 6:00 am:

6:00 AM. "Gay Music for a Spring Night"
7:00 AM. Live Poetry & Conversation: Aaron Shurin
8:00 AM. Gay Movement History - Live, with movement personalities.
9:00-11:15 AM. Music by Gay composers & discussion of being a Gay composer - with Lou Harrison and readings by Jack Latham
NOON. Noon News (includes Gay news by Bill Hartman)

12:15 PM. Noon Concert: New Gay songs by Stephen Grossman

1:00 PM. Stories & Poetry for Little People plus Gay parents and their children discussing Gay parents

2:00 PM. Family Circus: a Portland guerrilla theater group presents Gay material

3:00 PM. Gay Songs & Poetry: Blackberri, folk songs; Mikael & Randy, poetry; Maurice Kenney, poetry & commentary from a Gay Native American

5:00 PM. General News

6:00 PM. Third World & Gay News (Bill Hartman)

7:10 PM. Gay Lib Follies - a comedy review with Lily Tomlin and a cast of thousands

8:00 PM. Gay Music: Live-in-studio with Buena Vista, Stephen Grossman, Jeff Langley

10:00 PM. The Gay Experience in Poetry: Paul Mariah, Mark Johnson

11:10 PM. News (includes Gay news by Bill Hartman)

11:30 PM. Queer Kitsch - to 6:00 AM: politics, discussions, music, interviews

12:00 AM. Sado-Masochism: a progressive view of the world of power & permission

For more information, call 431-7243 or 839-6025.

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PUT A LITTLE MAGIC IN YOUR

Little Ruby Takes A Trip

Excerpts from *Vita Pav. Rubijorum*, vol. iii, translator unknown.

For those of you who may have been interested, Little Ruby (remember her, when she was captured by the dreaded band of leather nuns from south of the border, riding on their motor-cycles?), well, she's back, having been on a world tour, so to speak.

Actually, it was discovered that she had been well taught by her uncle, the Venerable Misogynist in the intricacies of Canon Law and even had her degree. So, she was elected to the prestigious office of Definitor. This position is sort of a watch dog type thing. Even though there are many holy and disciplined (not *that* kind) men and women in convents, etc., throughout the world, there are some unscrupulous types who may be in charge (i.e., abbots, priors, and their feminine counterparts), or some real zingies among the various communities, who are troublemakers. The Definitor visits all of the houses in his or her jurisdiction. This is the new position Sr. Ruby has assumed, and she had a pretty wild time on occasion, some mundane. Her Visitations took her to Europe, Africa, Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia and No. & So. America. Her permanent abode while in office, was at the Mother House in Rome.

In one obscure African nation, she was accused by the left-leaning Albanian-oriented President-For-Eternity of being a Capitalist Pig-Running Dog of Blood Sucking Imperialism, CIA spy and was very ungraciously kicked out of the country in the middle of the night. She was not pleased, for she was just beginning that monthly female period of disorder and left her bottle of Tylenol in the convent.

We will use her diary, as she graciously gave us permission so that we wouldn't fuck up on any details and especially get the correct spelling with regards to names of people, places and events.

Abbaye of OL
of the 7 Miracles of
Wine* and Cheese
* Appellation controllee

Dear Diary,
What a hectic day it has been.

I mean, poof, I am pooped. Started talking with the dear sisters after breakfast and went through right until the noon office. I had volunteered to help in the kitchen because I go a little funny talking to all these women. Some of them are very strange, like Sr. Mercredi. Actually, her name is Sr. Marie Antoniette of the Heavenly Hosts (All of them), and she has a wooden leg. They call her Mercredi because when she gets upset she mutters (quite loudly) "MERcredi". Being the holy nun she is supposed to be, she can't say *merde*. Anyway, I was glad to help. Unfortunately, 45 unexpected guests arrived at the guest house for dinner. Sr. cook was not pleased. So she whipped up more soup (the things she can do with that egg beater, it's the size of a small outboard motor), reheated up some veggies from yesterday, mixed it all with some onions and tomatoes and I cut more bread and filled the table bottles with wine and cider. Sr. cook carried up the soup to the guest house kitchen and I put all the trays with the guests' food on the shelves of the little dumb waiter. The kitchen is in the basement. Well, I pressed the button and went running up the stairs to be there when everything arrived. Just as I got there, I heard a crunching sound, and "slurrrip!" I went running back down to the kitchen, and what a mess! Sr. cook was giving me some very nasty looks. It seems one of the trays was sticking out just a bit, and as the contraption went up into the shaft from the runners on the wall, it jammed and tipped the whole thing over. It rained tomatoes, potatoes, beans, etc. I was mortified. Sr. cook then said things to me I couldn't find in my French dictionary. We picked up all the goopy mess, wiped off the trays, picked out bits of plaster and carried them up to the unsuspecting guests. My face was beet red. I silently thanked my Guardian Angel that the soup was hand-carried. Then I fled to my room, so ashamed was I. Soon the Abbess came knocking at my door. She said, "come back down. You weren't the first to do something like that. The last time, one of the brethren put all the good china in the elevator, but she didn't look to see if it was there. It was such lovely china too. Oh, well, c'est la vie."

Dear Diary,

Today the Archbishop of Chambery came by for his annual visit. I secretly thing he's a dirty old man. But the girls enjoy it because they get off work and have a small party... lots of cookies, coffee, cognac, and some smoking. I was a little alarmed at that. But you know these French.

I was seated next to Sr. Etourdi. I call her Bugs Bunny. She has the oddest shaped teeth, and wears sun glasses all the time. I really don't know what she does (haven't talked to her yet), but each morning after Mass, she goes trotting off down the road and no one sees her until noon. Very strange. Anyway, she was sitting next to me and asked if I would like some sugar in my demi-tasse. I said yes. Well, she put in 2 cubes, and I thanked her. Only she didn't stop. I kept insisting that I had enough, but she kept putting more in my little cup which soon began to overflow, and I had to change my place. The whole while, she just smiled, showing those peculiar rabbit teeth, still wearing her sun glasses. She ought to be an interesting one to interview.

4/6/76 using the name of God to justify
Same Place everything.

That reminds me of when I came up from Rome on the train. There was an Egyptian couple in the compartment with me who kept asking me all sorts of strange questions, i.e., where I had been, Israël especially. They got me a little paranoid with their looks and all that chatting in Egyptian. But they said they had fled their country before the war with all their money, etc., and settled in Geneva. They then offered me an apple, but I declined. You can never tell. Anyway I was glad when the train came to Geneva. I hope the train tomorrow will be calm. Going into Italy is always somewhat strange.

(to be continued)

Sex Forum

OFFERS ENRICHMENT
FOR GAY MEN

The National Sex Forum is offering a low cost, self-help enrichment program for Gay men who believe they are experiencing sexual dysfunction or who simply want to achieve a more fulfilling sex life. The program, Personal Sexual Enrichment/Education for Gay Men, is a simple, week-by-week process which uses sex education video tapes, a step-by-step workbook, at-home exercises, and group discussions. The program will be conducted by the Rev. Bill Johnson, a trained sex counselor, Sex Forum staff member, and Gay activist.

Each participant will be expected to attend a one hour individual assessment session and four 3½ hour evening group sessions. The group will meet on four consecutive Tuesdays from 7 pm to 10:30 pm, beginning April 12, 1977. The program is open to individuals and couples and is limited in enrollment. Fees are set on a sliding scale for the 16-hour program.

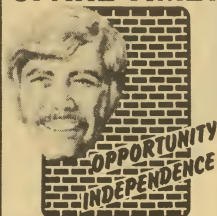
The National Sex Forum is a non-profit educational service which has educated more than 40,000 persons in human sexuality since 1968. The Forum also provides a private counseling service to individuals and couples of

all sexual preferences. For further information, call (415) 928-1133 or write to 1523 Franklin St., S.F., CA 94109.

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(We've always wondered why "Gay Kids" had so much fun...)

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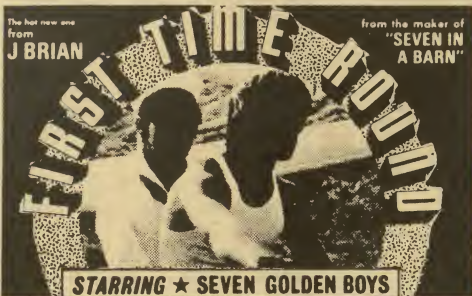
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Sweet Lips Sez

The Seventh Hanging - 1977

by Dick Walters

WELCOME to our LUCKY SEVENTH HANGING. Lucky for me to have held court at the same old corner for so many years. Most of all, I'm lucky to have so many unusual, tolerant, understanding beautiful friends who hold my same regard for "camp." They have escalated the KOKPIT into the status of "senior establishment" among a list of similar watering holes which didn't make it.

Thanks to all of you who have made it possible for me to enjoy a SEVENTH HEAVEN in my SEVENTH YEAR which certainly should be one of the SEVEN WONDERS of the World. You have made the KOKPIT a legendary institution in its own time.

PALM SUNDAY

As an added hype for tomorrow's hanging, the forever indulgent WARREN and his fabulous Q.T. (Polk at Clay) will serve a multi-seven-course buffet

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to a limited number of Lucky guests who have purchased a reservation for only \$5.00 in advance of Palm Sunday. Be there at 7 PM and watch the "strange" people arrive. Complimentary throughout the dinner will be served the current vintage rare "Eau d'Marin." Surprises are also promised to this select outrageous horde of "in" people.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

9 AM HANGING DAY Eye Openers at the KOKPIT with appropriate "munchies" and CLOWN-Costumed Revelers bracing for the moment when a gaily decorated Cable Car will take them to...

11 AM SUTTER'S MILL, arriving just when the place is aflutter with serious businessmen and ladies in their 3-piece Puccis, Guccis and Yves St. Laurents, hoping their bosses won't recognize them in the crowd but promising themselves not to miss the 7th HANGING at the KOKPIT tonight at 7.

1 PM Through Montgomery Street's financial section the Cable Car will wend its way to Market Street, thence for a visit with friends at the Castro Station, the Nothing Special, Bella's World and reboarding the Cable Car after one for the road at the TWIN PEAKS.

3 PM Will find the revelers at San Francisco's newest disco - THE ANDROMEDA - where besides refreshments, a sumptuous complimentary buffet will be served, prepared by a licensed caterer, and John Schmidt says, "We'll do it all for you."

7 PM THE SEVENTH HANGING OF SWEETLIPS. Thanks to ROB & BILL of William Roi Framing. The theme of the evening is ENJOY! ENJOY!

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

9 AM A typical KOKPIT HANGOVER MORNING! Day-old do-nuts and recycled coffee will be served complimentary until...

11 AM when the Annual GANGWAY Hanging Brunch will be served, hosted by JOE ROLAND, assisted by Mr. and Miss Lithuania '77. Legendary exquisite food, legally catered by the CASA DE CRISTAL and served by the original Grande "Mere" - JOSE, will start your heart ticking so you can carry on for the rest of the day.

3 PM The newest in the 'firmament' of Tenderloin bars - SLAGEL'S - promises a galaxy of prizes, surprises and if you're real good, a recording artist or two.

6 PM No one will out do PAUL BENTLEY, who promises to erect a real working gallows at the N'TOUCH, and with the help of a few friendly bartenders, this hanging may be the last. (Promises! Promises!) Be there to applaud Paul's production of "THE LAST GASP."

9 PM It's Picnic Time at the KOKPIT, catered by a bona fide caterer - Mueller's of Castro. Bella, assisted by Darcelle, Mame, Roc and Jimmy Quinn, says since we are in NISAN and celebrating the First Day of Chai Hamod, you know what exquisite food you can expect. Bring your own ants. The food is with the compliments of the KOKPIT.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

9 AM Another Hangover coffee klatsch at the KOKPIT with the usual "days old" and recycled.

11 AM The traditional "WALK" which has become an institution equalled only by the Chinese New Year Parade, starts at the RED LANTERN with a surprise festivity to launch this famous "walk" followed in order with stops at TOTIE'S, GANGWAY, the PHOENIX, the *P.S. where Dixon and Roy have "Plans." Then on to THE NEW BELL, the Q.T., the CINCH, then across Polk Street to the N'TOUCH and ANDROMEDA if you are still ambulatory.

8 PM The KOKPIT is turned over to Pit Boss Bambi XIII of Jackson's and Club Dori, who has planned a fitting evening of audience participation entertainment which promises to be a lucky climax to what has been a death defying wet week in glorious San Francisco.

LUCKY SEVEN - COME ELEVEN

THANKS! SWEET LIPS

S.F.'s Future

The Ass'n of Bay Area Governments released results of a major study projecting the future of the San Francisco Bay Area to the year 2000.

The study, known as "Series 3," projects a slowdown in the Bay Area's population growth over the next 23 years. Estimates for the year 2000 range from 5.4 to 6.1 million, compared to today's population of 4.9 million. Earlier population studies by ABAG and by the State Department of Finance projected much higher growth rates, with estimates as high as 7.6 million persons by the year 2000. "Series 3," however, assumes a continued low birth rate, reflecting both regional and national trends.

Another major finding of the study is that households (occupied housing units) are expected to grow at a faster annual rate than the population. The reason for this is that households are anticipated to become smaller in size, but their number, particularly those headed by females, will increase.

With a lower birth rate and longer life expectancy, "Series 3" portrays the 65-and-older population increasing by an average 20 percent. The proportion of those younger than 25 will decrease by about 19 percent. By 1990, the median age of Bay Area residents will be about 33, compared to 25% today. With a more mature population, a projected 23 percent more people will be in the labor market.

Using the study's lowest estimate of birth rate, deaths and births may balance out in the Bay Area by the year 2000. Population growth will occur mainly from persons migrating into the Bay Area.

San Francisco will expand as a job-market center (outpaced only by Santa Clara County), but its population will continue to decline. The disparity between jobs and housing in many parts of the Bay Area will accentuate, and more people will find it necessary to commute into San Francisco. In other parts of the Bay Area, people will be traveling greater distances to work.



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Oil Can Harry's Expands

More than a thousand guests waited five abreast on Larkin St. last Monday night in a line extending from Ellis to O'Farrell and west to Polk, according to estimates made by the Fire and Police Department officials as they stopped in front of Oil Can Harry's to see what the crowd was all about. "They must be giving away twenty dollar bills in there," said one observer who was glowing in his comments concerning the decorum of the large crowd.

The crowd was a build-up occasioned by a two-hour delay in opening Oil Can Harry's - one of San Francisco's newest and largest disco bars, which, after only six months of operation, was expanding.

Fifteen minutes after opening the doors, Oil Can Harry's again reached its new capacity, and the remaining line was asked to wait a little longer for what would eventually become "space available."

In addition to an enlarged dance floor and a second 20-ft. raised bar allowing a fine view of the dancers, a new ceiling light show has been installed, automatically controlled by tempo and sound, affecting multi-colored racing lights which form exciting patterns multiplied as they reflect in the floor-to-ceiling mirrors.

A series of glittering crystal chandeliers overhang the new bar, reflecting in a mirrored wall and giving the illusion of an even longer and more exciting bar area.

by Henri Leleu

Gay Aggies File Federal Suit

HOUSTON - A group of students at Texas A&M, Gay Student Services, filed suit Monday, Feb. 28, in Federal District Court seeking official recognition by the University.

The Federal Building in

Houston was the site of a press conference held by the students in an effort to publicize their fight for rights enjoyed by students at other universities.

Gay Student Services applied to A&M on April 5, 1976, for recognition as an official student organization. The significance of this recognition is that it allows the group to use university buildings for meetings, obtain free publicity in the school paper, and the like. It also aids the Gay students in obtaining funds for their group.

Dr. John Koldus, Vice-President for Student Services, rejected the application Nov. 29, 1976. The students replied to the rejection with the pledge to seek redress in federal court, citing the case at the University of Texas in which the Gay students won the right to organize and be recognized.

Koldus ignored the threat of the suit, suggesting that the university, unlike the University of Texas, would defend the suit all the way through the federal appellate procedure.

At the press conference, student representatives cheerfully admitted that they realized that they may well be gone from A&M by the time official recognition is won through litigation, stating that they were doing it for students yet to come to the college. They seemed unimpressed by Dr. Koldus' attitude on the part of the university.

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"Dictators" Makes SF Debut

On Thursday, March 31, the Dictators will make their S.F. debut at the Mabuhay Gardens, 443 Broadway. The Dictators have been widely acclaimed as the best of the current crop of bands from the New York underground. If "punk rock" connotes any technical-musical immaturity, then the term is far from appropriate for the multi-talented Dictators. But if "punk rock" has to do with playing music that parents don't want their kids to listen to, then this is THE punk rock band of all times. The Dictators have been hailed as the best band of the late 70's in such diverse publications as the NEW YORK TIMES, CREAM, VILLAGE VOICE, NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS and PSYCLONE. Their first album, THE DICTATORS GO GIRL CRAZY, is a collector's item. Their new album will be released by Electra on May 1.

Opening for the Dictators will be the Bay Area's top punk rock band, the Nuns. The legendary R. Meltzer will emcee the opening night. The Dictators will also play dates at the Keystone in Berkeley and Palo Alto, and in San Jose, Santa Cruz and Sacramento.

An Enlightened Yellow Pages

A San Francisco taxi driver has a plan he says "will greatly reduce the chances of falling into the hands of inept, irresponsible and outright dishonest businesses and individuals."

It's called "The California Connection" - an alternative to the yellow pages that will feature housepainters, babysitters, beauticians... thousands of individuals and businesses who publicly value "personal growth and responsible, quality service."

Publisher Bruce Allen, who drives the night shift for City Cabs, got the idea for the service direc-

tory after exploring the Bay Area's consciousness movement. A veteran of est, Actualizations, Sun Seminars and Arica, he discovered a recurrent theme in the consciousness movement, which, simply stated, is "your life will work to the degree that you make good on what you say you're going to do."

Allen applied the technique to his cab-driving, always opening doors for his clients; going the shortest routes; being sensitive to passengers' desire to talk. He noticed an increase in tips.

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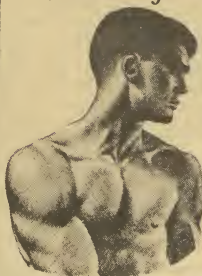
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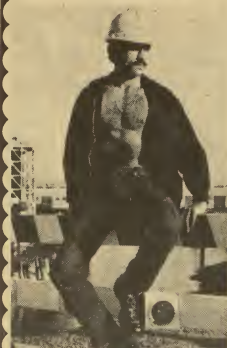


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Show Biz in Review

Stage;

The Moustrap

"The Moustrap," now playing at the Alcazar Theater, 650 Geary, would appear to have everything going for it; it is the Agatha Christie thriller that has been running in London for 25 years; it's a neatly plotted play full of twists and turns to please any mystery buff; and it is directed by Lee D. Sankowich, the local pride of directors, with a professional cast of familiar faces. Unfortunately, while it will probably do business because of Christie fans, it's a decidedly second-rate evening of overdone theatrics that only point up the fact that perhaps Dame Christie is better read than viewed.

The play is that creaky warhorse about a young couple opening a guesthouse outside London and their five mysterious guests. While the radio regales us with news of the local murder, one of the guests gets done in at the end of the first act and suspicion lies heavily on all concerned. Director Sankowich seems uncomfortable with the material so over-compensates by adding interminable gimmicks that only distract instead of trusting himself to just direct a taut thriller. No suspense generates in this "Moustrap" until the final 15 minutes, and by then paresis has set in.

The cast is as uneven as the direction. Sankowich has a bad tendency to whip his actors to one level and leave them there; the wife is constantly too shrill, ditto the inspector too intense, the campy fey architect too arch, the murky Miss Casewell too monotone (to connote hidden depths doubtless) and on and on. It is an indulgent production, allowing too much leeway on all sides and generating little excitement. Sankowich has envisioned an imaginary fireplace stage center, a gimmick that might have worked if he hadn't beat it to death; actor Joseph Whipp carries a cane throughout and what a performance it gives, slashing and whipping and punctuating until I fought down an urge to jump onstage and break it into little pieces (I restrained myself when it became apparent that Whipp had no characterization without it.). The English accents come and go with alarming regularity, even in such experienced hands as Ruth Kobart's.

Byron Jennings is generally excellent as the



Drew Eshelman and Janet McGrath seek in different directions to find "The Moustrap".

persevering detective, his final scene a true gem and the best single moment of the evening; Susan Brashers is appealing because she exudes conviction as the wife; Francis Ingall is perfection as the rather stuffy Major; and Drew Eshelman is a bit much, but very funny and charming, as the architect. Ruth Kobart understates the dominating harridan with skill; Janet McGrath seems to have no concept of Miss Casewell and does nothing with the role. Joseph Whipp seems to be in the wrong play and Lou Favreaux as the husband is inexcusably atrocious.

The gothic countryside set by Michael Kroschel and Ron Madonia is a wonder; the lighting by Michael Garrett heavily unsubtle and the costumes by Rita Yovino generally do nothing to enhance the actors (she really "did in" Miss McGrath).

"The Moustrap" is not Lee D. Sankowich's cup of tea, nor is it well served by the acting ensemble; and this flimsy thriller needs expertise all along the way to make an un-dimensional play gripping and exciting for two hours; it needs all the help it can get, and at the Alcazar, the help is half-way measures all the way.

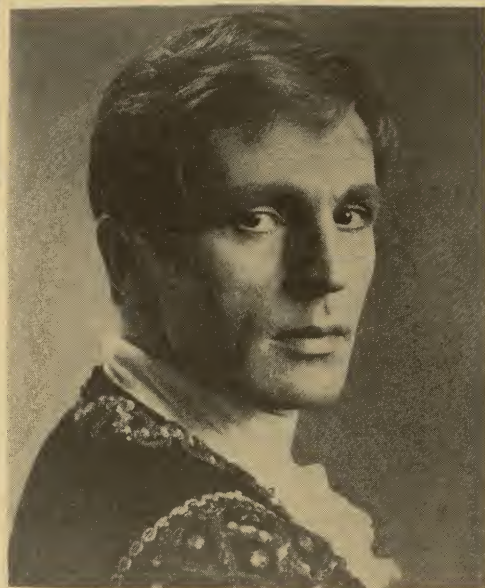
Dance: American Ballet Theatre

In two nights viewing ABT at the Opera House, I was once again impressed by their soloists' high level of ability, the unevenness of the corps (though better than last year) and bewildered by some of their selections. Best of the lot was Glen Tetley's "Voluntaries," a driving, pulsating ballet without letup that starts in a simple pas de deux and builds steadily into a classically structured ensemble exercise. Cynthia Gregory proved once again what a beautifully bravura dancer of control she is, dazzling in her crisp technique, and in Charles Ward she seems to have an excellent partner capable of sustaining his own. The always exciting Martine van Hamel added still more luster to the "Voluntaries" roster, teaming with Gregroy in matchless brief spurts of choreography that showcased both ballerinas comparably, and the corps de ballet was at their best under Tetley's sweeping theatricality.

Next came that tired, dismal "Firebird." "The Firebird" choreography by Fokine to the music of Stravinsky has never been anything more than a showcase for the prima ballerina; and frankly, the same choreography that thrilled us twenty years ago when Maria Tallchief danced it is outdated and undemanding by today's standards and does nothing to enhance Natalia Makarova, though she is more than capable of handling what little demand it makes upon her. Makarova's "Firebird" is a lovely creature indeed, and Marcos Paredes is a superlative evil Kostchei; so much for the values of Fokine's ballet. Erik Bruhn added glamor to the name roster for the one evening by pantomiming Ivan, the hero; Bruhn, the greatest of the great in his heyday, mimed with-

out dancing the dull role. While it's always nice to see him, the role is a disappointment.

The plot is barely worth recapping - that dreary bit about the Firebird giving Ivan a feather in the forest for sparing her life that enables him to break the evil spell of Kostchei and marry the beautiful Tsarevna. Who cares?! It's a typical Russian 1900 ballet full of overstated pantomime, little dancing, and a pseudo-spectacular second scene wedding that supposedly gives an epic sweep to the whole affair. It's a crashing bore as a ballet, and why the ABT thinks it's worth preserving is beyond me, especially when our own local company has given us such an inspired, fresh new interpretation last season. Let's retire Fokine's "Firebird" to the Siberian



Erik Bruhn guested with ABT for one performance of "The Firebird".

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The three-act "The Sleeping Beauty" by Mary Skeaping is another traditional ballet that has not changed an iota since Sir Robert Helpmann's staging in the 40's. This museum piece is not enhanced by Oliver Messel's drab sets or potpourri of period costumes; it's interesting to see Princess Aurora's court suddenly move to Spain to be entertained by Italian folk dancers and Dutch maidens, but it only adds more confusion to a plot that takes two minutes to tell and three hours to dance.

As Aurora, Martine van Hamel seemed hesitant and anticipatory in "The Spell," but her fourth act swept all reservations before it, and she carried the afternoon with honors. Her technique is superb and she possesses the commanding stature that makes her one of ABT's treasures. Unfortunately, Clark Tippet is a mundane partner - shaky at best in his solo turns as the Prince and totally lacking in power. Again Marcos Paredes walked off with acting honors with a superb Wicked Fairy; Paredes is a fine character dancer, and his Carabosse revealed a malevolent wit that was spellbinding. Jolinda Menendez was a poor Lilac Fairy (that irritating creature who keeps popping up throughout to little effect); Menendez has no identity onstage and barely adequate technique. Which makes one wonder why the casting, since dancers like Karenne Brock, Rebecca Wright and Hilda Morales were

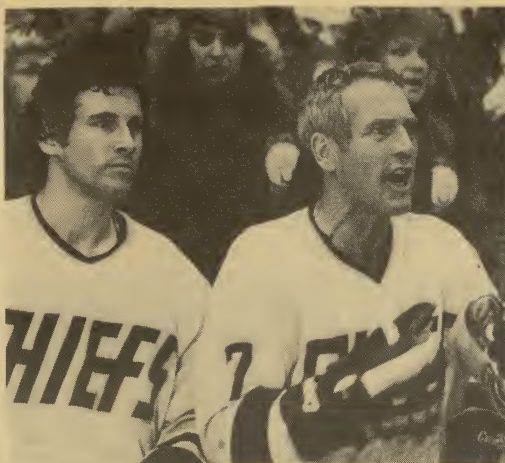
wasted in brief turns and deserve far better.

The fourth act, after an exciting first act and a predictable and unexciting second and third (except for the Rose Adagio), finally made the affair worthwhile. Terry Orr with Wright and Morales offered a finely honed divertissement; Elizabeth Ashton and Peter Fonseca gave us an adorable Puss in Boots and Kristine Elliot and a newcomer named George de la Pena as the Blue Bird and his Princess brought star quality to the performance. de la Pena, although obviously nervous, has the same fire and style of the young Fernando Bujones and is definitely a comer to watch. Miss van Hamel surpassed all that had come before her, no minor achievement.

"The Sleeping Beauty" is another ballet that needs a shot in the arm; those second and third acts just don't warrant the patience demanded, especially when danced only adequately, if that. Hopefully, ABT will start pumping new life into new productions. But as long as they bring us dancers like Gregory, van Hamel, de la Pena and Bujones, and new choreographers like Tetley, they'll always be worth seeing.

Film: Slap Shot

This new Paul Newman film should actually be called "Cheap Shot" because that's exactly what it is - a cheap shot at the world of ice hockey players, machismo and violence told in the foulest



Michael Ontkean & Paul Newman cheer their bloodthirsty, foul-mouthed teammates on in "Slap Shot".

terms possible. It's also a very funny film that is thoroughly enjoyable once you realize you're going to watch trash. Another fun-trash movie.

Newman plays the over-the-hill coach of the Charleston Chiefs, a losing hockey team. With the advent of three new morons in their desperate closing season, Newman creates a goon squad of belligerent fighters who scrap and riot in every game; attendance swells, they start winning by foul means and all of a sudden, they've given the public what it wants - acres of blood and violence. One suspects that the parody of excessive violence is not too far off the track, considering the bloodlust of roller derby, wrestling, etc.

If you're offended by foul language and sexist images, then forget "Slap Shot." Every obscenity in the book is used repeatedly, with excessive dwelling on "cocksucking," the impugning of masculinity by the players seeming to be the worst degradation possible. The women of the film are brainless sex objects who drink and screw, the manager (neatly played by Strother Martin) is a fag transvestite; there is a token dyke, and lots of locker room "moonings." Something for the entire family, if it's a family of rednecks.

George Roy Hill has directed with ferocious disregard for anything but commercial shock value, and the film was written in all its foulness by a woman, Nancy Dowd. The cast is excellent with Michael Ontkean playing the one holdout against Newman's breach of taste; but the film does make a powerful statement about our preoccupation with Lily Tomlin as a would-be

voyeur violence and the adoration of winners, no matter how repulsive. Buy your lock of Gary Gilmore's hair, see "Slap Shot." It's fast; it's funny; it's foul. Newman again uses his lowkey charm to maximum advantage, and Hill has given us a biting indictment of the world of hockey and the sports fans who prefer broken skulls to skill. It's really a more sweeping condemnation than that, applicable to many winning attractions that pander to our lowest instincts. But "Slap Shot," while deliberately offensive in the extreme, is also a well-made, funny film that unquestionably will do socko at the box office ... reaffirming its own theme.



Art Carney, Lily Tomlin & Bill Macy sneak a peek at "The Late Show".

Film: The Late Show

"The Late Show," now playing at the Regency II on Sutter, is a wonderful film by writer/director Robert Benton that is reminiscent of the Raymond Chandler detective films of the 40's. It offers the one holdout against Newman's breach of taste; but the film does make a powerful statement about our preoccupation with Lily Tomlin as a would-be

actress, dress designer, dope dealer failure who hires him to find her kidnapped cat. Together, they're incandescent - a perfect teaming of talents.

Benton has captured the seamy ambience of Hollywood; and the dialogue blazes with cynical repartee that skillfully skins the layers off the frustration of little people who never achieve much but survival. Bill Macy scores nicely as a sneaky friend and Eugene Roche and John Considine are excellent as the heavies. But Carney and Tomlin as a battered Nick and Nora Charles combination strike exactly the right chemistry to give the sort of performances too seldom seen. They are brilliant, and "The Late Show" is a must-see sleeper of the year thus far. Nuf said!

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Club: Della Reese at "The City"

Appearing thru Sunday, March 20, is the dynamite Miss Della Reese. After much too long an absence, La Reese returned to prove she's a consummate nightclub performer who effortlessly knows how to knock any audience out and make any song she chooses hers alone. Looking exactly (if not better) as she did 20 years ago, with that amazing powerful voice, she is full of vocal twists and turns that make her rendition of the simplest standard a surprise treat. Her phrasing of a lyric is impeccable, witnessed in a gospel shoutin' version of "Stop and Smell the Roses," a scat version of "East of the Sun" blending into a rocking "Honey-suckle Rose" and a stunning "Everything Must Change." She's brought along some of her known requests - a medley encompassing "Don't You Know," "My Heart Reminds Me" and "Someday"; as a stylist, she remains an original in everything.

Superbly backed by pianist Marvin Jenkins plus three local musicians whom she met onstage opening night for the first time and who do our local union proud, Della Reese is a rare treat for clubgoers. She is totally in command and proving twice nightly that there's nothing finer than to spend an hour or two with a master showwoman.



PAM MYERS—a bright singer/comedienne bodes promise at The Mocambo.

Club: Pam Myers at The Mocambo

After appearing in "Company," "Something's Afoot" and "Snoopy!" in San Francisco, Pamela Myers returns thru March 20 at The Mocambo to premiere her new act. Cute as a button with an ingratiating personality and glib ease onstage, she

tion is insufficient excuse, for she chooses a medley of 24 Ethel Merman hits which only invite unfair comparisons and do nothing to showcase her personally. Only die-hard Merman fans might find it entertaining, and the applause is for Merman's original creation, not Myers' brief renditions. She should drop this segment like a hot potato and get back to showcasing herself.

Best of her material is a rollicking "I Gotta Get Hot" burlesque takeoff and singing all three parts to "You Could Drive a Person Crazy" from "Company" (which should be her closing "up" number, not a melancholy finish). She shines when playing the bouncy comedienne, definitely the line to pursue for future bookings. Her flip observations about show business, the mike cover, King Kong, and a turn with a hand puppet are charming. As it stands now, she could play the New York "in" rooms ... but her act is too showbiz oriented to have a wide popular appeal. There's a bright potential for her as a singing comedienne in an opening act for major headliners, but her act still needs restructuring and strong comedy material before that will happen. Right

now, Pam Myers is making an impressive first outing in nightclubs that bodes high promise of even better to come.

Donald McLean

Gay Men's Theater

On March 25 the Gay Men's Theater Collective, based in San Francisco, will premier its first production, "Crimes Against Nature." The ensemble of ten Gay men emerged from a workshop that began in July 1976. In this theater piece, the men focus on the unsatisfactory and ultimately oppressive techniques that individuals develop in order to survive in this abusive society. The production represents a recognition that collective, supportive work is an alternative means of survival.

"Crimes Against Nature" will be performed March 25 and 26 at the Gay Center, 32 Page St. (near Market & Franklin); April 8-10 at the Project Artaud Theater, 450 Florida St. (near Mariposa). For information and complete performance schedule, call 431-7333, Ext. 9.



DELLA REESE—a master at work until March 20th.

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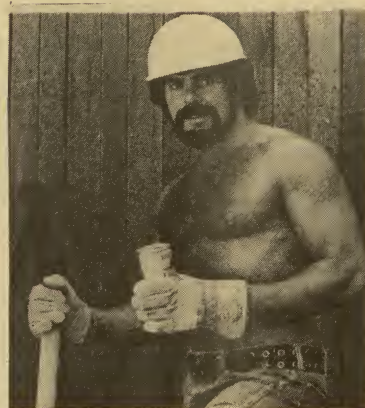
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YOUNG MENS STUDIO APARTMENTS

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Women Singer-Songwriters

by H. Klein

In the last issue I tried to point out how many aware women in the recording industry are handling the difficulties and bigotry that they face in their work. This week I've asked three local critics to help me review recent albums by women performers. Two of my favorite artists, Dianne Davidson and Deadly Nightshade, have had their albums reviewed in this space before. In this issue Steve Seid, an entertainment writer for ZENGBERS, tackles Cris Williamson; Robert Kiggins, Managing Editor of PSYCLONE and critic for IN TOUCH and the ADVOCATE, looks at the new Janis Ian album; and ROCK 'N' ROLL NEWS' D. Lawless writes about Joan Baez' latest album.

Although my three colleagues are less than enthusiastic about the albums they've reviewed, I'm eager to report that the newest album by Joan Armatrading, West Indies-

born British singer/songwriter, is easily one of the best albums to have come out last year. Her third album, as well as her most polished, JOAN ARMATRADING (A&M) evokes visions of such legendary performers as Jimi Hendrix (this lady plays some guitar!), Van Morrison, Nina Simone and Elton John. Now there's a combination for you. Her music is moody, melancholy even, but always flowing and always alive with a beat that forbids any song to drift into the maudlin. My favorite songs are "Love and Affection," the single, "Water with the Wine" and "Down to Zero." There are no bad cuts on the record.

Armatrading is very much an artist and a free-thinker. She definitely has created a career for herself - in the midst of the hypiest business in the world - that is devoid of the superfluous bullshit that surrounds even the

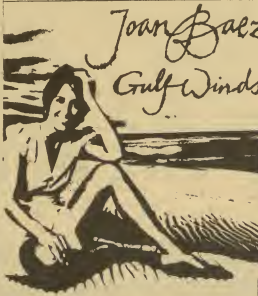
JOAN ARMATRADING



most well-meaning recording artists. Armatrading is a woman who insists on wearing street clothes when she performs rather than a costume. She says her contribution to the women's struggle will be to succeed in her art because that in and of itself will help other women. If that's true, women couldn't have a better champion.

Gulf Winds (A & M)

JOAN BAEZ



The cover of GULF WINDS depicts a tan, smiley Baez, dressed in contempo boutique, in front of a garish sunset-on-the-beach backdrop. She's lookin' good, and she long ago won my admiration for her humanistic endeavors, but her aristocratic, lillyfruit voice just plain bores me. GULF

WINDS is comprised of semi-autobiographical tunes that are melodic but have no memorable melodies. The songs are vaguely confessional but only remotely personal and are sung in her most meretricious princess tongue.

And the lyrics... on "Seabirds," a jazzy tribute to Joni, a drunken Baez sez jokingly to nobody in particular, "Don't ask me what my sign is, instant intimacy runs cheap." On "Kingdom of Heaven," she sings, "I call out fruitlessly/Give me an archangel for company." Ugh!

Best song on the LP is "O, Brother!", a heated retort to Dylan's "O, Sister." It's an upbeat C&W number where Baez, at least, displays one clearly recognizable emotion: anger. But then it's right back into the dreary, metered reasonableness. In the end, she's still making a living singing noble and brave songs, dressed, as Donovan once said, "in white lace, lookin' cool with a black lace fan." Nothing's changed 'cept the times.

by D. Lawless

Miracle Row (Columbia)

JANIS IAN



PC 34440 Janis Ian, noted for her sensitive and introspective lyrics, has an established reputation as one of America's premier performers and songwriters. Her new album, "Miracle Row," leaves no doubts as to why this reputation is so richly deserved.

I wanted to like Janis Ian's new album, MIRACLE ROW. Honestly I did. I think she's an agreeable songwriter and usually an interesting one to listen to. No Joni Mitchell or Laura Nyro, certainly, but a moderately forceful talent. However, each time I put on MIRACLE ROW I grow more alienated and disappointed. I feel it's feebly produced, uncomfortably self-indulgent, and boring.

The album's musical qualities are negligible (listless arrangements, a paucity of instrumentation, a jarring harmonic overdubbing of Ian's voice) and although simplicity can highlight a singer of quality, even Ian's vocalizing sounds uninspired here.

And her poetry, occasionally the redeeming joy of a "folksinger's" album (I still can't classify Ian otherwise), wrestles with noteworthy themes but falls short of any lyrical maturity.

Moreover, Ian's decision to again concentrate on her phobias (unrequited love, loneliness, nightfall, old age), although often a genuine reflection of insecurity, fails to touch.

Like I said, I wanted to like it, but then maybe I'm always expecting a miracle.

by Bob Kiggins

The Changer & The Changed (Oliva)

CRIS WILLIAMSON

In many ways Cris Williamson's first album, THE CHANGER AND THE CHANGED, is one more product of Teen Metaphysics, the new sensitivity. Filled with elusive lights, spirits crying and souls shining, Cris has demonstrated that hemlock is the true way of Metaphysicians not stardom.

It's a shame, for behind all the "filling ups" and "spilling overs" is a vivacious woman with consid-

CRIS WILLIAMSON



The Changer and the Changed

erable talent. But then again, sobbing spirituality is not the only corrosive element to grace THE CHANGER AND THE CHANGED. The album, en toto, is the residue of poor arranging and vagrant musicianship. Take "Shooting Star," for example: introduced by a percussionist who finds it amusing to emulate a coffee perculator, the song gains a momentum that is quite contradictory to the original sense established. Then in closing, a mediocre gui-

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tarist chose to play a riff completely incongruous to the mood that Cris had painstakingly created. What remains is a hodgepodge, not a hit.

Scrape away the distracting veneer and you will find a number of inspired tunes. "Shooting Star" is a fine rousing number. So is "Dream Child," a haunting bit of sensuality with some excellent imagery. And we mustn't forget "Wild Things," a song for feral lovers.

There is no doubt, Cris Williamson is the possessor of a vital talent. Just a few adjustments, here and there, and she'll be a shooting star worth following through the cosmos.

by Steve Seid



Paula Clarke and Greg Gible in Shela Xoregos' "Shadowfall."

Xoregos Dance Troupe Spring Concert

The Xoregos Performing Company, the oldest modern company in the city, repeats its uneven blend of drama, music and modern dance during the Company's 10th season, 8:30 pm, March 18-20, at the Xoregos Studio, 70 Union St., S.F.

The program features a new piece by dancer/choreographer Welland Lathrop. Lathrop, who danced with Martha Graham in the 40's, was a key figure in the Modern Dance movement in San Francisco.

His new work, an abstract piece titled "Endangered Species," was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and is set to an original electronic score by New York composer Conrad Cummings.

Also featured is Shela Xoregos' new "Shadowfall" - a surrealistic piece that combines theater and dance in a recreation of a terrifying sleepless night.

Rounding off the premieres is "Sonatine" - choreographed by company dancer Paul Scardina and set to the Milhaud score "Sonatine" (1923).

The highlight of the evening is Paula Clare's exquisite rendition of Ruth St. Dennis' "Three Brahms Waltzes." Ms. Clare - anytime on stage - is

competent, convincing and intelligent. She deserves more than a delimiting showcase. On the rest of the evening, one takes one's chances.

Castro St. Fair

The Castro Village Assn has announced that the Fourth Annual Castro Street Fair will take place on Sunday, August 14. While planning will not get underway for some time, the announcement of the date is to let those planning other events in conjunction with the street fair avoid conflicting dates. Once the fair committee is operating, contact people will be announced for those who wish to participate.

3rd World Cultural Night

The Third World Gay Caucus will hold an evening of Third World cultural activities on Saturday, April 2, from 6:00 pm to 1:00 am at 32 Page St., San Francisco. A \$2.00 donation will be requested at the door. Refreshments - beer, wine and apple juice - will be offered at \$.50 a cup. The public is invited and welcome.

The purpose of this event is to provide a forum for Third World Gay artists and for the community to find out about and recognize the talents of its Third World

artists. We have enlisted local talent to perform: The Novas, a new and exciting pop music group; Blackberri, a folk singer; thought-provoking poets and writers, Chrystos and Michael Tapia; fine art and photography exhibits by Efrén Ramirez and Ivan Fernandez; three short films; and time will be set aside for the audience who may have something to share. There may be some dancing as well. For further information, contact Jeryl Saulter at 451-3817.

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Imperator et Rex

by Hector

The Gamecock Court hosted an evening at the theater last Sunday night and over 60 people were entertained with the production "Princess Zoubaroff." The tickets were donated by Cabinet members John Callen and Jack Baker and, as a benefit for the Court treasury were sold at \$3.00 each.

We had a tremendously successful evening, and I want to especially thank all who attended.

Next on our agenda is an auction by the Gamecock Court to benefit Operation Concern. We will gather at the Twin Peaks on Tuesday March 22, at 9:00 pm. All interested persons and

Court members are asked to support this auction by bringing auctionable items to the Twin Peaks prior to 9:00 pm on Tuesday. With your help, we can make a sizable contribution to Operation Concern.

Sunday, March 20, is the San Franciscans' Butch Brunch at Seaman's Hall from Noon to 4:00 pm. We would appreciate as many Court members as possible representing the Gamecock Court in standard uniform.

On Monday, March 21 Tracey Dunn is hosting a party at Slagel's for the Muscular Dystrophy Ass'n. I am sure that Tracey would appreciate any support you can give her.

The Pride Great Depression Dinner and Dance will be held on Sunday, March 27, at the Gay Center, 330 Grove St. We're planning to attend this event en masse, so please mark your calendars.

As many of you already know, Empress de San Francisco Jane Doe will hold her Investiture on April 3 at the Golden Gate Theater (upstairs). Although I understand a few of the details are pending, the Investiture will take place early in the evening -- 5:00 - 9:00 pm. This should certainly give everyone the opportunity to attend and yet not lose a wink of sleep!

The Imperial Princess to the Emperors AFTER Norton, La Kish, holds her Roller Skating outing on Thursday, March 31. She has tickets available at \$3.00 each at the New Bell Saloon. This party will be a benefit for the Community Softball League and should be an evening of unusual entertainment to say the least.

The Gamecock Court has many activities in the wind. The "Emperor's Birthday Party" will be held on April 23, and you'll be hearing a lot more about this. Bob Cramer is heading the Committee for this extravaganza which is made up of Mark Calhoun, Bob Shore, Ferris Lehman, Joel Coleman, Keith Lee, Mike Gerena and Dale Sorenson.

We also appointed Mike Gerena and Keith Lee as Co-Chairmen of the Float Committee for the Gamecock Court's Gay Day Parade float. They'll be asking for a lot of help just prior to the Parade on June 26. Clarence Nora and Bob Perry have already committed themselves to this Committee, and we're looking for more volunteers.

Ron Porter and Pat Gardner will Co-Chair our "Hollywood Canteen" on May 21. We will hold this Saturday night party at the Gay Center, and details are forthcoming.

The Gamecock Court will be busy in the months ahead, and I am proud to see our people creating excitement. I want to

thank everyone who has worked with us thus far, and we have much yet to do; so if you have free time for one of our Committees, let someone know.

Please go back through my column and mark your calendars. We don't want you to miss a thing!

Jane Doe-In Brief

by Michael Nameth

My gratitude to the BAY AREA REPORTER for the opportunity to write this column bringing you events and happenings during my reign as Empress de San Francisco XII. It is difficult for me to express in words how pleased I am with all the friends who helped elect me Empress. The campaign was camp and fun; the most significant factor was making new friends and re-establishing old acquaintances. Winning the title is not the end - it is just the beginning. I want to encourage all to join with me in bringing to the City we love so much a year of which we can all be proud. My Court will be known as "The Court of the White Rose," which symbolizes purity, valour and honour. I hope this answers all questions regarding "what is camp?" My Investiture will be held April 3 at the Golden Gate Theater starting at 5:00 PM. There will be a donation of \$6.00 which includes hors d'oeuvres, no-host cocktails and a special screening of Diana Ross' "Lady Sings the Blues."

Immediately after the Birthday Party will be a flick there will be a special appearance which you will just have to be there to experience. Then I will bestow high honors and recognition to those who made me what I am today.

If every month is as active as February, it is going to be a fun-filled year. My Court and I attended the Barbary Coasters Academy Awards, the Cable Car Awards, the Special Appearance of Miss Jane Olivor at The City, and the coronation of the new Empress in Sacramento. San Francisco was well-represented in Sacramento with Empresses Bella, Willis, Maxine, Freida and Flame; Czarinas Voodoo and Lorelei; Dauphine Ginger and Crown Princess Ginny Lee. Congratulations and Best Wishes to the newly elected Empress of Sacramento, Pat Montclair. This weekend my Court and I will be in Vancouver for their Coronation. We will then fly to Long Beach for their Coronation on Sunday. If anyone is interested in joining us please stop in and see me week days at the N'Touch where I am now bartending.

April will be a festive month, and everyone will

have something of interest to attend. The Community Softball League gets underway for their fifth year at Noon on April 3 at Hayward Field for opening ceremonies with the first game of the season, Rainbow Cattle Co. v. *P.S., immediately following. After the game there will be a party at Oil Can Harry's with a donation of \$1.00 going to the league's insurance fund. At 5:00 PM that same day will be my Investiture at the Golden Gate Theater. On Easter Sunday we will have the traditional Easter Walk through "Polkstrasse." Join us if you can for a fun-filled day.

Once again, I want to thank everyone who helped me during my campaign. It will be impossible to please everyone, but I will do my best to bring you laughter, entertainment and joy via Jane Doe. If we work together and forget our prejudices, we will have a worthwhile year.

P.S. You can help Dade County's fight to keep their newly-enacted Gay Rights bill by sending your contributions to Transperence Center, P.O. Box 1976, Miami, Florida. This is an important fight for the entire country.

Denver Position Open

Many from the Gay community of Colorado have come together over the past year to establish a Gay Community Center in Denver. Activities such as weekend retreats and successful fund-raisers have indicated a wide base of support. To date, an interim Board of Directors and six working committees are functioning. Although many activities will be determined by the people who will use the center, some programs will include: counseling, referrals, meeting space, a library, coffeehouse and a variety of educational, social and cultural activities.

The interim Board of Directors is now accepting applications for a full-time salaried Coordinator for the Center. Send resumes or inquiries to the following address prior to April 30, 1977: The Gay Community Center of Colorado, Inc., P.O. Box 2024, Denver, Colorado 80201, Attn: CSC

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Women's Space

A Gay Woman's Open Letter to Gay Men

TOUCH ME NOT ☐ NOT ☐ NOT

Look out.

You are in the process of being marketed into possible oblivion by people who are interested in capturing your money and cauterizing your minds. An image of Gay men is being sold to the world, one that keeps getting tighter, smaller, more restrictive, less complex. Progressively, you are being displayed as being either disco swinger or super-macho. The old roles of butch and femme have metamorphosed into butch and butcher. Your visibility is becoming that of heartless prick, capable of fucking and buying pretty things for a lot of money - but completely unable to love, feel warmth, feel affection.

Men are raised in this culture to ignore half their emotions. You can be strong, independent, aggressive - but never, ever cry. Feminism has broken down many of these stereotypes and afforded men the chance to open up and feel more. Yet, the feminist influence has been exterminated in most Gay male publications. The commercially accepted image has not made room for feelings. Sex is supreme, not emotions or caring. And many men unaware of the options or unable to express some of their deeper needs, accept the "safety" of the promoted image and follow, follow.

Arthur Bell's recent VILLAGE VOICE article, "Looking for Mr. Gaybar," frightened the shit out of me. As fellow/sister writers, I will defend to the death Arthur's right to publish anything he diddly damn pleases. However, I cannot let this article pass unchallenged.

Arthur paints a picture of what the easier parts of "liberation" have wrought - accessibility to mindless, superficial sex with no investment of human emotions. The man in question (I do hope the name is a pseudonym) is cold, cynical, detached from everything at night but his penis. He dressed in the 'au courant' butch look, cruises with a hard eye, gets it on in backrooms and then leaves, untouched, unscathed. We know he is not happy, but nothing is suggested to point out an alternative direction. It's all decadent, chic and just another step on a presumed inevitable road to Weimar.

One mental picture sticks, that of a man on the floor of one bar, screaming "Stamp on me!" STAMP ON ME. Is this the way men are trying to touch each other now? Is this the end result of the mass marketing of sex? Are all these men hurting so bad that the only way to touch is by creating an external hurt that's bigger?

I'm reminded of a poem my friend Jimmy wrote one darkly pitted night:

There is a demon common to all aesthetics and athletes.

A preying/praying imp of Hell known to the lost and lone ones as feeling lost and lonely.

Why is everyone so afraid to say, "I'm hurt. I'm lonely. Help me." Why are we so bent on trying to run away from ourselves? My friends tell me horrible stories of trying to find friendship and being offered only a fuck. They speak of needing conversation, caring, the ability to find warmth in another's arms - and not finding it in the men they meet. The alternatives to the bars and cruising are few. It's like the battle to feel is so terrifyingly huge that no one is willing to try.

This emerging, visible picture of Gay men in America is not true. You cannot possibly be that emotionally lobotomized. You know what it feels like - REALLY feels like. Discos and bars and baths can be fun - but there's got to be something else. A place for your rage against the world, if you bother to feel it. A place for safety in another person's arms. A place where you can stop pretending to be the untouchable Mr. Gaybar and just be you. There must be more to your world than sex and "don't come close." Gay sexual acts are "still illegal in the state of New York." There is "no Gay rights bill in New York City." You cannot have the dubious good of easy sex and not deal with the ignorance and bad that it is producing. The potential for destruction of all is what we risk if we do not stop to think and "feel."

And we cannot allow this distortion of human visibility to continue - or we might start believing it, too. This is the image of us that homophobes have always held. Sexual creatures with no redeeming social values. Mindless morons bent on sin and corruption. Loveless, anguished souls who are not human. This assumption of decadence among ourselves is dangerous. After all, if Arthur says we're looking a lot like Weimar - can a Hitler be far behind?

Loretta Lotman

- reprinted from "Michael's Thing"

All Women's Theater

The newly formed Women's Theater Production, sponsored by the Theater Task Force of the S.F. Chapter of the National Organization for Women, will present its first production on April 15, 16, 22 and 23 at Bethany Church (Clipper and Sanchez), 8:00 pm, for \$2.00 donation at the door. The following works will be featured:

"The Serious Middle," a variety show, co-directed by Mary Bergquist and Karen Olila of the B&O Women's Theater Troupe, founded in 1974 in Champaign, Ill., and most recently seen at the S.F. Women's Conference on Violence Against Women. Performers in "The Serious Middle" are: Mary Bergquist, Karen Olila and Jean Trounstein.

"Overtones," a one-act play written in 1913 by Alice Gerstenberg, directed by Cindy Wilson, is a humorous satire dealing with the subconscious versus the conscious mind. Cindy Wilson is a theater artist involved with both acting and directing who received her training at California State University, Sonoma. Performers in "Overtones" are: Deborah Black, Dey Ehrlich, Cathay Guinn and Joanne McEntire.

"Calm Down Mother," a one-act play written in 1966 by Meagan Terry, directed by Louise Minnick, reflects specific concerns of the women's movement as well as having appeal for all women. Performers in "Calm Down Mother" are: Connie Merced, Katherine Stenberg and Jan Magin Thomas.

The N.O.W. Theater Task Force has been organized to meet the needs of women involved in theater at all levels. Its functions will include monitoring women's theater in the Bay Area and reporting on developments in this field, addressing the problems women may face within the industry such as labor relations and unfair hiring practices, exposing women writers, directors and performers to the public, and, most importantly, entertaining and educating the public concerning women's theater in general.

The Women's Theater Production needs the interest and support of the women's community. Anyone interested in becoming involved in any phase of future productions is urged to contact Louise Minnick, Theater Task Force, at 333-5119.

PLEASE NOTE: A performance will also be held at 8:00 pm on Friday, April 29, at the Gay Center, 330 Grove (between Franklin & Gough), S.F.

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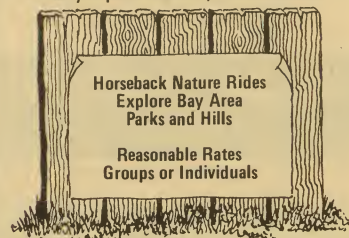
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Books

View From Another Closet:

EXPLORING BISEXUALITY IN WOMEN, by Janet Bode, Hawthorne Books, 1976; \$8.95

Don't be put off by this title. The time to break down the barriers between men and women on the Gay issue is now. We learn much about the sexuality of each other by close comparisons. In many areas males and females are similar in their desires rather than different. Bisexual people tend to offer more under-

standing and patience when making love.

Janet Bode, a freelance writer based in San Francisco, gleaned such insights during informal conversations with a number of articulate women. She also used a detailed questionnaire.

These bisexual women, most of whom were born after 1944, speak with conviction about their way of life and insist that they are seeking the best that can be offered by both sexes. Bisexuals are frequently rejected by



Janet Bode, author of "View From Another Closet".

both sides: straights feel they are immoral, and Gays claim they are coping out.

Bode turns up surprising historical leads. Bisexuality was not listed in the READERS GUIDE TO PERIODICAL LITERATURE until March 1973. Information was difficult to locate until quite recently. Such "deviant" emotions were accepted among the Greeks and Romans, but when Christianity arose, a massive blackout choked off anything sensual. Women were demeaned as forces of evil and bisexuals stayed hidden until the modern era. It wasn't until 1975, for example, that Barbara Walters opened the subject on her television show "Not For Women Only."

According to Bode, the women she interviewed are hoping the "androgynous" personality will emerge among both men and women of the future. (This refers to people who are psychologically both male and female - men who can be tender and women who are not afraid to be aggressive.) They see bisexuality as a way of bringing both straights and Gays closer for mutual support and understanding.

These gals disagree

with psychiatrists who claim that bisexuals are people unable to love anyone. As one of Bode's confidants forcefully expressed it, "A decision should be based on emotions, not sexual differences."

They see multiple sexual yearnings as an asset, not a handicap. Another woman emphasizes the advantages: "I've been sleeping with men who are Gay or haven't slept with a woman in years. I find they're more willing to get close. With many straight men, there's a bubble - they're in their bubble and I'm in mine."

View From Another Closet is filled with rich insights and a cornucopia of opinions about the shades of gray that ripple between the sexuality of all of us. Bisexuality may be the weather-vane of the future - this behooves all Gays to be aware of this new trend in sexual freedom. As one of the women so aptly phrases the question, "Why is the tradition of the rugged individualist allowed in all facets of character except sexual orientation?"

by Frank J. Howell

Women's Funk Band

On Saturday, March 26, the Peoples' Cultural Center will present SWEET CHARIOT, one of San Francisco's best and most popular funk bands. A visually and musically exciting and energetic group, they draw a large and enthusiastic crowd wherever they appear in concert. SWEET CHARIOT consists of Sharon Russel, lead vocal & guitar; Sheila Renee, keyboards & vocals; Bonnie Johnson, drums and back-up vocals; Maurice Rhodes, bass; and Annette Aguilar, congas & timbales. They play original songs they've written, as well as music of Labelle, Rufus, Stevie Wonder and James Brown. This will be the first appearance by the band at the Peoples' Cultural Center. The evening will begin at 8:30 PM; the band will begin at 10:00 PM, and admission will be free before 9:00 PM and \$2.00 after 9:00. Refreshments and food will be available all evening. For information, call 431-9329.

M.L.A. '77

Reporting on the prestigious Modern Language Ass'n 1977 Convention in New York, William Cole wrote in a February issue of SATURDAY REVIEW:

In 1973, I wrote an article about the MLA for THE NEW YORK TIMES. Looking around the meeting just past, I didn't notice any startling changes. Unemployment seems a bit worse; topic subjects remain similarly arcane; there are just as many beards, and perhaps more women - about half. A noticeable change is the proliferation of discussions of gay matter: Gay Caucuses and sessions on such topics as "Language in the Gay Community." One note in the MLA CONVENTION DAILY is interesting. In a section devoted to changes in the printed program, this ran: "Gay Caucus for the Modern Languages - Jodi Braxton is not a Lesbian feminist and will not participate in meeting 195."

"Sex: the last sanctuary for violence, conquest, and rape, is a world as docilely crammed as an elevator ascending after lunchtime."
John Updike

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Letters to Our Staff

Editor:

As we all know, Anita Bryant and her homophobic horde are very much in the news lately. Just as soon as I learned of her actions through the general media I wrote to the Florida Citrus Commission to express my opinion of her "crusade."

The enclosed three letters show the exchange that occurred. The Commission replied to my letter (with what I suspect is a form letter) and I responded to their statements.

James Andrew Nicholas

* * *

Florida Citrus Commission

Dear Madames/Sirs:

The recent actions of Anita Bryant to overturn a human rights ordinance in Dade County shock me. While I am rarely influenced by advertising, Ms. Bryant's commercials have aroused my curiosity sufficiently to increase my purchasing of your State's citrus products. However, in light of Ms. Bryant's abhorrent actions, that must change.

The exercise of one's rights to religious beliefs oversteps the bounds of justice when used to deny the basic human rights of others. The vilification of the ordinance forbidding discrimination on a basis of affectional preference is in itself a condemnation of Ms. Bryant's "brand of religion."

"Save Our Children, Inc.," headed by Ms. Bryant, is an organization of bigots righteously asserting what they believe is their right to deny the Gay people of Dade County their basic human rights. Their fervor in their attack on mythical dangers to their children is based on sheer ignorance and perverted religious beliefs.

Her campaign against human rights must be halted. I urge the Florida citrus industry to break all ties with Ms. Bryant. Every time I see her on TV now, my stomach twists in revulsion.

Until the matter is settled in favor of the human rights ordinance Ms. Bryant is fighting, or she is publicly dismissed by her Florida Citrus employers, I will urge everyone I meet to boycott ALL citrus products that do not specify origin OUTSIDE of Florida.

James Andrew Nicholas

* * *

Mr. James Andrew Nicholas
San Francisco, CA

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

While we recognize that Anita Bryant is identified closely with the State of Florida, she was acting on her own initiative in the Miami situation and not as a spokesperson for our organization or the state itself.

For us at this point to try to prevent her from making any further statements on this issue would be denying her the rights which members of the Gay community have been denied traditionally over the years. The Citrus Commission is not going to be put in the position of committing a wrong to correct a wrong.

We take no stand one way or the other regarding the Gay Equal Rights situation and feel that the only reason that you have pulled us into this is that you see us as economically vulnerable. Your argument is with Anita Bryant the person, not Anita Bryant the spokesperson of the Florida citrus industry.

Edward A. Taylor
Executive Director

* * *

Dear Mr. Taylor:

In reply to your letter of Feb. 22, may I clarify several important points of the Anita Bryant problem?

Certainly, I realize that Ms. Bryant is not acting on behalf of the State of Florida, or the Florida Citrus Commission. Despite that realization, it is not possible to separate Anita the Citrus Promoter from Anita the Crusading Bigot. After all, the essence of advertising is "image." Formerly, a display of Florida citrus products reminded one of Ms. Bryant's singing about oranges. Now your products conjure up the image of a fiendish crusader determined to destroy human rights.

By all means, do not "commit a wrong to correct a wrong" as you said. The president of a New York production firm had the advantage of knowing about Anita Bryant the fanatic before making the error of becoming financially entangled in her web of bigotry. You did not have that advantage and so cannot "go back" and refuse her services as Teletactics did by cancelling her role in a developing television show. You, Mr. Taylor, can dismiss her now, allowing her to carry on as she wishes, without further tarnishing the image of the Florida Citrus Commission nationwide.

Yes, you are "economically vulnerable" as you said, but name one industry that is not.

I must agree with the many articles and editorials I have seen condemning Ms. Bryant's campaign. Until Ms. Bryant's ties to Florida Citrus are formally severed, I will buy ONLY those citrus products specifying origin outside of Florida, and encourage others to do the same.

Sincerely,

James Andrew Nicholas

Jim Stoll Resigns From Operation Concern

Jim Stoll, Director of the Operation Concern Counseling Services, has announced his resignation effective April 30.

Mr. Stoll has accepted the directorship of the J. Walter Cameron Center, a community service agency serving the island of Maui. He will lead a very large and thriving center which provides a wide range of community services including Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and a Sheltered Workshop.

Gary McDonald, newly elected chairman of the Operation Concern Board of Directors, accepted Stoll's decision with deep regrets.

Under the leadership of Mr. Stoll and the administrative support of Pacific Medical Center, Operation Concern has achieved a unique status in the mental health field and is the object of nationwide recognition as the first of its kind and a model for Gay mental health centers in other parts of the country. Grants totalling in the thousands of dollars have been awarded to Operation Concern covering a wide range of services, including counseling for parents of Gay children, training grants and suicide prevention areas.

The Board of Operation Concern has set up a screening board consisting of Gay professionals in such fields as psychotherapy, psychiatry, social service, and mental health to investigate any and all applicants for the position which heads a staff of ten Gay persons engaged in counseling members of the community in the various problems which it is felt can only be handled by Gay therapists. Persons interested in applying for the position may contact Mr. Stoll at Pacific Medical Center or Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Gary McDonald.

Matching fund raising projects for the Board of Directors includes the annual Circus-Circus on July 31 and the annual Closet Ball in August.

Missouri Senate Rejects ERA

JEFFERSON CITY - The Equal Rights Amendment was defeated yesterday in the Missouri Senate on a vote of 22 to 12.

The defeat came after more than two hours of parliamentary maneuver-

ing by those on both sides of the proposed constitutional amendment.

It marked the second time the Senate has rejected ERA, this time by a larger margin than two years ago.

Apartheid Protest

The San Francisco Gay Democratic Club and Hastings Gay Law Students have endorsed a March 19 demonstration sponsored by the Committee to Defend the Black Majority in Southern Africa. The rally will take place at noon in Kimball Park, Geary & Steiner. Black Gay Caucus, Bay Area Gay Liberation, Gay Action and Gay Teachers & Schoolworkers Coalition have also endorsed the demonstration.



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Entrapment in San Jose

A friend of mine from San Jose - Art - while driving along St. James near 4th noticed a hitchhiker and proceeded to park his car after another turn around the block. The hitcher approached the car from the driver's side, starting conversation, and then Art suggested that he sit in the car. After long conversation, including questions from the hitcher asking if Art was a cop, and Art's question if he (the hitcher) was a cop (both questions were answered with a "No"), Art placed his hand lightly on the hitcher's left knee and was then surprised to hear that he (the hitcher) was an undercover police officer with "You are under arrest." The charge - "Solicitation for a Lewd Sex Act."

aware of several other cases in the San Jose area and other cities and counties, and we wish to hear from you. Fortunately, Art is going to fight back, the right way, with facts and attorneys and, hopefully, with the support of the community. I personally encourage all persons that find themselves in situations like this to fight; stand up for your rights. There is no excuse in this day and age for that kind of crap. If you are involved in this type of situation or any other kind of harassment, please write our editor, Paul Lorch, c/o B.A.R., 1550 Howard St., S.F., CA 94103, or call 861-5019. Art would also like to hear from you; please write him: Art James, c/o Lambda Ass'n, 1248 Malone Rd., San Jose 95125. The only way to stop this kind of entrap-

My point in bringing this up is that we are

San Jose's Christopher Street Democratic Club, an organization affiliated with the CDC, announced a boycott of Florida citrus products in the South Bay Area. Those interested in the boycott, or joining the organization, contact Christopher Street Club at P.O. Box 2284, San Jose 95109, or call (408) 289-8909.

* * *

The Manhole in San Jose is featuring "all you can drink" draft on Wednesdays from 6-11 pm for only \$1.25. You will find the Manhole a nice, comfortable Man's Bar.

Lambda Ass'n presents its first anniversary show, a comedy (with Dan Relic on stage, what else could it be but a comedy) at the Desperados on March 27 at 8:00 pm. MC's will include Tonna, Goldie Montana and the one and only Lucy Manhattan, and will star (get a load of this) "Senorita Calle Prima" aka Miss (or is it missed) First Street.

The Camelot held its first year party on the 13th, and from what I am told, it was a bang-up success. The party included the "First Annual Anita Bryant Phallus in Mouth Awards" and the winner was none other than Dan Relic. I would comment, except that I don't want to get run over by an irate Relic - and just to make things juicy, Fred (the one and only Fred), owner of the Camelot, was runner-up.

Empress Tonna and Emperor Hal held their investiture at the Desperados on Sunday to a packed crowd. Congratulations! I hope a court that will do something for San Jose and keep problems to a minimum, as well as solve some past ones, has been announced. The Park Street Station will host a birthday party for Momma Reyes, Alphonso's

Empress Kary Christian.

mother, Monday the 21st. This lady is so well loved that I just don't know how Alphonso will be able to get all the well-wishers in. Also, on March 29, Park Street will hold an Amateur Drag & Talent Contest, with a \$50 first prize.

New bar in Mountain View! Yes, it's true. Mountain View has its own bar, called the Jolly Inn, 1711 El Camino Real (between Bailey & El Monte Avenues). The bar features easy parking and lots of good company, wines or beer, dancing, pool, darts. This is a comfortable mixed bar and everyone is welcome.

Hans' in Oakland still has one of the best Sunday brunches around, and you will have to go far and wide to beat the dinners. All are practically a gourmet treat.

* * *

Pat Montclair is the new Empress of Sacramento and her Emperor Spankey still has a while to reign. The coronation went the way of most - too long and dragged (pardon that word) out. But of mention was the presentation of the San Jose Polynesian Court and

Dorothy Bigmouth's San Diego Court. The San Diego theme was the Wizard of Oz, with everyone dressed up as a character from the movie; and I must admit, much as I hate to, they did a bang-up job.

Another new bar in (beautiful downtown) Modesto is the Pastime Club, located at the opposite end of 9th St. from the Brave Bull. It features beer, wine and pool. Owner Helen and Danny Blaylock will be more than happy to cater to your drinking needs.

The Brave Bull no longer has Sunday Brunch, but they hope to get things started again soon.

One more item of mention: rumors around Modesto that customers are being bothered in the Pastime Club's parking lot. This is NOT true! There has been no single case of disturbance in the lot or the bar in the three years Helen has owned the bar.

Don't forget the Cinderella Ball in Fresno on March 25 and the Merced Coronation on April 16.

Sunday, March 20, starting at 4 pm M.C.C. East Bay will hold a "Day of Insight" Part II, "Men and Worship." Starting at 4 pm, the film "Men's Lives" will be shown. This film deals with the roles in which men have been raised; a discussion follows which will be led by Rev. Bill Johnson of the National Sex Forum. A potluck dinner will be held at 6:30 pm and service at 7:30 pm.

The Rev. Richard York, Pastor of Trinity-St. Augustine's Episcopal Church of Oakland, will be delivering the message. The Rev. Bill Dearth of Sacramento and Rev. Marshall Williams, Asst. Pastor of M.C.C. East Bay, will be participating in the service.

M.C.C. East Bay is located at 2624 West St., Oakland 94612, phone 836-0313.

St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated with a Gaelic fund raising event at the Tattoo Lagoon, benefitting the Gay Community Center and the Muscular Dystrophy Ass'n. That night a Leprechaun costume contest at 11pm. \$1.00 donation at the door admits one to disco dancing at 9pm. The Tattoo Lagoon is located at 8th & Howard Sts., San Francisco.

LOS ANGELES - At a packed meeting in Hollywood's Las Palmas Theatre, Mayor Tom Bradley addressed the nation's second-largest democratic club. The popular mayor received a standing ovation as he entered the theater and conducted a two-hour "open forum." He remained until there were no more questions from the audience.

The landmark meeting was opened by Stonewall Club President Morris Knight. He first introduced Mrs. Wallace Albertson, head of the California Democratic Clubs Ass'n. She, in turn, introduced her husband, TV celebrity Jack Albertson, star of the series "Chico and the Man." Both gave glowing reports of the Stonewall Club's progress. Albertson noted that it took a Gay club to make him a delegate to the California Democratic Clubs Convention scheduled this month in San Jose and that he was proud to be their delegate.

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Gay Center News

Volunteers are needed during the week between 10 AM and 5 PM to answer phones, type, file, organize library and archives materials, organize referrals for a Gay switchboard, address envelopes for mailings. We also need persons with graphics and layout skills to help prepare a Community Center newsletter.

We need a typewriter!
Persons with carpentry, electrical and plumbing skills are also needed.

* * * *

GAY CENTER CALENDAR

March 17, Thursday

7:00 pm NOW Theater Rehearsal
7:30 pm SF Women's Chorus
7:30 pm English Country Folkdancing

March 18, Friday

7:00 pm NOW Theater Rehearsal

March 19, Saturday

10:00 am All Day - volunteer work party - all welcome. We have a task for each person's skill and desire.

March 20, Sunday

10:00 am All Day - volunteer work party - all welcome.
2:30 pm Gay Freedom Day Committee - open meeting.

March 21, Monday

5:30 pm Karate Class
7:30 pm Gay Action - open - all welcome.

March 22, Tuesday

7:00 pm NOW Theater Rehearsal
7:30 pm SF Gay Democratic Club

March 23, Wednesday

5:30 pm Karate Class
7:00 pm Drawing Class with male model
8:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

March 24, Thursday

7:00 pm NOW Theater Rehearsal
7:30 pm SF Women's Chorus
7:30 pm English Country Folkdancing

March 25, Friday

7:00 pm NOW Theater Rehearsal

March 26, Saturday

10:00 am Workday for volunteers. All day long. Something(ONE) for everyone.

March 27, Sunday

10:00 am Workday for volunteers. All day long.
2:30 pm Gay Freedom Day Committee. Open meeting.

Operation Concern Auction

Emperor of San Francisco, Hector Navarro, and the Gamecock Court will host an auction on Tuesday, March 22, at 9:00 pm at the Twin Peaks Tavern. Proceeds will be turned over to Operation Concern as a supplement to their limited income. The members of the Court and all those with an interest in Operation Concern are asked to bring auctionable items to the Twin Peaks prior to 9:00 pm this Tuesday.

The auction will feature many celebrity auctioneers. It has been billed as an evening of excitement and entertainment and should certainly prove to be one of the most successful auctions held in recent times.

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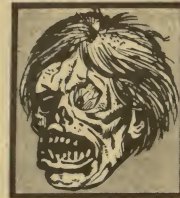
Oregon Gay Rights Bill

The Portland Town Council reported that the bill to grant Gay rights in Oregon has been routed to the Senate Committee on Aging and Minority Affairs. The Committee began public hearings March 8 in Salem, at which time both homophobes and Gay activists presented their testimony.

Gays were urged to write to the Oregon senators to press their support for SB 603 c/o Oregon State Capitol, Salem, Oregon 97310. The lobbying Gays are seeking volunteers and donations c/o Portland Town Council, 320 S.W. Stark, #303, Portland, Oregon 97204.

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